

## BIRDS OF THE DESERT REGION OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

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**ABSTRACT.**— The Common Loon, White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, recurvirostrids, and most grebes, waterfowl, gulls, and terns have become more abundant in Uintah County, Utah, since 1937 (Twomey 1942) due to the establishment of Pelican Lake and adjacent water bodies and the ponds and marshes at Ouray National Wildlife Refuge and Pariette Wetlands Wildlife Management Area. The incidence of herons, egrets, thrushes, nuthatches, and icterids has generally remained about the same since 1937. Diurnal raptors have largely declined in abundance in the desert region of Uintah County since Twomey's (1942) study. Plovers, sandpipers, phalaropes, and the White-faced Ibis were generally less common in 1977–1982 than in 1937, perhaps chiefly due to their displacement from wintering grounds by human population expansion and agricultural and industrial development. The incidence of owl species remains constant. Most flycatchers, swallows, warblers, vireos, orioles, and emberizids have diminished in number since 1937, probably because of the shrinkage of their winter habitats in Latin America and the southwestern U.S. The Blue Grosbeak and Black-throated Sparrow were not recorded in Uintah County in 1937 but were found there during this study and may represent a range extension northward since 1937. The Blue-gray Gnatcatcher is more common now than in 1937 due to the northward extension of its range. The Starling and Rock Dove and, more recently, the Common Grackle, Great-tailed Grackle, and Cattle Egret have invaded Uintah County due to the expansion of their ranges. It is not clear why the Pine Siskin, House Finch, and most corvids are presently less common than in 1937.

### Description of the Desert Region of Uintah County

Uintah County, Utah (11,425 km<sup>2</sup>), almost as large as Connecticut (12,973 km<sup>2</sup>) and over twice as large as Delaware (5,328 km<sup>2</sup>), is in northeastern Utah in the Colorado Plateau province (Breed 1976). I performed wildlife surveys on oil shale lands there from 1977 to 1982. Most observations included in this paper were made on lands or in the proximity of roads leading between oil shale leases and Vernal. Thus, this work is limited to sightings occurring in the lowlands of Uintah County. In this study, the desert region of Uintah County (principally at 1,400–1,675 m) includes desert scrub (or shrub, Graham 1937), desert-riparian (Fremont cottonwood—*Populus fremontii*, sandbar willow—*Salix exigua*, peach-leaf willow—*S. amygdaloides*, tamarix—*Tamarix pentandra* Pall, and box elder—*Acer negundo*; Graham 1937, Welsh and Moore 1973), and lowland pond, marsh, and lake habitats as well as agricultural and urban land. Plants along Green River at Split Mountain Campground in Dinosaur National Monument, including yellow willow (*Salix*

*lutea*) and willow (*S. monticola*), are considered to constitute desert-riparian habitat although they exist in the transition zone between the latter and montane-riparian habitat. Vegetation along Ashley Creek at the mouth of Dry Fork Canyon (1830 m) and in and near Merkle Park (1830 m), consisting of thin-leaved alder—*Alder tenuifolia*, river birch—*Betula occidentalis*, narrowleaf cottonwood—*Populus angustifolia*, red osier dogwood—*Cornus stolonifera*, yellow willow—*Salix lutea*, willow—*Salix lasiandra* Benth., and bush honeysuckle—*Lonicera involucrata* (Graham 1937, Welsh and Moore 1973), is considered to be montane-riparian habitat. Juniper-pinyon woodlands in Uintah County are not considered to be part of its desert region.

### GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS AND DATES OF AVIAN SIGHTINGS MADE BY OTHER OBSERVERS

Behle (1981) reviewed most of the ornithological work that occurred in the desert region of Uintah County. Other important avian studies there are reviewed as follows.

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C. Cottam observed birds near Jensen on 12 September 1941 (Hayward et al. 1976). Killpack and Hayward (1958, Hayward et al. 1976) watched birds approximately 18 km east of Jensen 9 June 1953, in the vicinity of Bonanza and Rainbow 16, 18, and 22 June 1954, about 13 km south of Ouray 29 May 1955, and at Pelican Lake 19 September 1956 and 17 June 1958.

Specimens were collected at Randlett 6 May 1950, 1 July 1957, and 22 July 1961, and at and near Jensen 19, 20, and 22 July 1937 and 18 May 1958; birds were seen along Green River near Ouray and south of Bonanza 17–18 May 1958 and near Randlett 13 May 1961 (Hayward 1967). From 1960 to 1970, C. L. Hayward, H. H. Frost, and associates (Hayward 1967, Hayward et al. 1976) made many avian observations at Pelican Lake.

Behle and Ghiselin (1958) collected birds about 5 km south of Vernal 26 July and 10 September 1948, 18 and 20 June 1949, and 6 and 25–27 August 1949, at Brush Creek, approximately 13 km northeast of Vernal, 24 August 1949, and about 5 km southwest of Jensen 27 July and 11 and 28 August 1949. Behle and Selander (1952) reported the capture of a Blue Grosbeak 5 km south of Vernal in June 1950 and the observation of the species at Vernal 4 August 1951. G. Lloyd and C. M. White made observations and collected specimens along the White River west of Ouray in July 1961 as part of the larger study of Utah by Behle (White, pers. comm.).

M. A. Strong (Olsen 1973) surveyed birds in the oil shale area of Uintah County in 1972 and 1973 and performed breeding bird inventories there in spring 1973. Ornithologists on the White River Project Team surveyed birds on and near the federal oil shale tracts U-a and U-b southwest of Bonanza in 1975 and 1976 (Anonymous 1977). Sangster (1976, 1977) performed avian studies at Ouray National Wildlife Refuge (ONWR) and Pelican Lake in the spring of 1975 and 1976. At Kennedy Basin 18 km northwest of Bonanza, B. H. Green (1981) and A. R. Johnson (1981) studied habitat utilization among Sage Sparrows and Lark Buntings, respectively, in 1979 and 1980. In recent years, several birders, including E. Sorenson, R. Sorenson, M. L. Perry, and M. Webb, have

reported unusual sightings of birds in Uintah County to *American Birds*. D. Chure and L. Ferris and other personnel with the U.S. National Park Service, T. Tornow, M. Lange, and H. G. Troester, personnel with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and D. Zalunardo, S. Madsen, and K. L. Parr, employees of the Bureau of Land Management, provided many sighting records at Dinosaur National Monument, ONWR, and Pariette Wetlands Wildlife Management Area (PWA), respectively. J. S. Cranney and M. Schwinn, employees of the Utah State Division of Wildlife Resources, supplied the locations of several raptor nesting sites in the desert region of Uintah County, and M. Horton and P. Wagner made raptor observations there. Utah Field Ornithologists visited ONWR, Pelican Lake, Stewart Lake Wildlife Management Area (SLWMA), Dinosaur National Monument, and Vernal City parks 15–16 May 1982. D. Chure, L. Ferris, M. S. Fisher, J. Harris, M. Lange, A. Leppert, C. Leppert, M. Leppert, P. Leppert, and R. Mackin performed an Audubon Christmas bird count in the Jensen area 26 December 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.).

## METHODS

This paper does not include all avian observations that have been made in the desert region of Uintah County, Utah. It indicates sightings or collections of the author and other ornithologists or birders demonstrating the relative abundance or periods of occurrence of species in that region different from that reported in one or more published works cited here.

The incidence of birds in Twomey's (1942) study and mine (Fig. 2) are often compared. In designating the relative abundance of species in 1934, 1935, and 1937 versus 1977–1982, the same criteria were not used because A. C. Lloyd's investigation continued for only 36 days in spring and summer 1934 and four months in spring and summer 1935 (Twomey 1942), and Twomey's (1942) study lasted only five months in 1937 whereas my investigation continued for five years.

A species was considered rare when from 1 to 3 separate sightings were made of fewer than 5 individuals or when only one sighting

was made of a flock of 5 or more individuals. For Twomey's (1942) study, uncommon species generally include those that were noted as being rare, uncommon, not plentiful, not abundant, not numerous, or as being represented by few individuals. When the number of bird observations was recorded, a species was regarded as uncommon when 4–24 sightings were made of fewer than 5 individuals or when 2–14 sightings were made of flocks comprising 5 or more individuals. In this study, a species was considered uncommon when fewer than 5 representatives were observed on 4–24 different days or when 5 or more individuals were sighted on 2–19 different days.

For Twomey's investigation, common species generally include those that were indicated as being common, plentiful, numerous, abundant, frequently seen, or seen in considerable numbers. When bird observations were enumerated, species were usually considered common when 25 or more sightings were made of fewer than 5 individuals or when 15 or more sightings were made of flocks consisting of 5 or more individuals. In the present study, species were considered common when fewer than 5 individuals were sighted on 25–100 different days or when flocks of 5 or more individuals were observed on 20–50 days. Species recorded in Twomey's study are regarded as abundant

when they were noted as being very abundant, very plentiful, very numerous, very common, or the most abundant or widely distributed bird in one type of habitat. In this investigation, a species was considered abundant when fewer than 5 representatives were observed on 100 or more different days or when flocks of 5 or more individuals were observed on 50 or more different days.

The sites of my observations are shown in Figure 1 and the periods during which different species were sighted are indicated in Figure 2. In this paper, common names and scientific taxonomic nomenclature and the sequence of species presentation are according to the American Ornithologists' Union (1982).

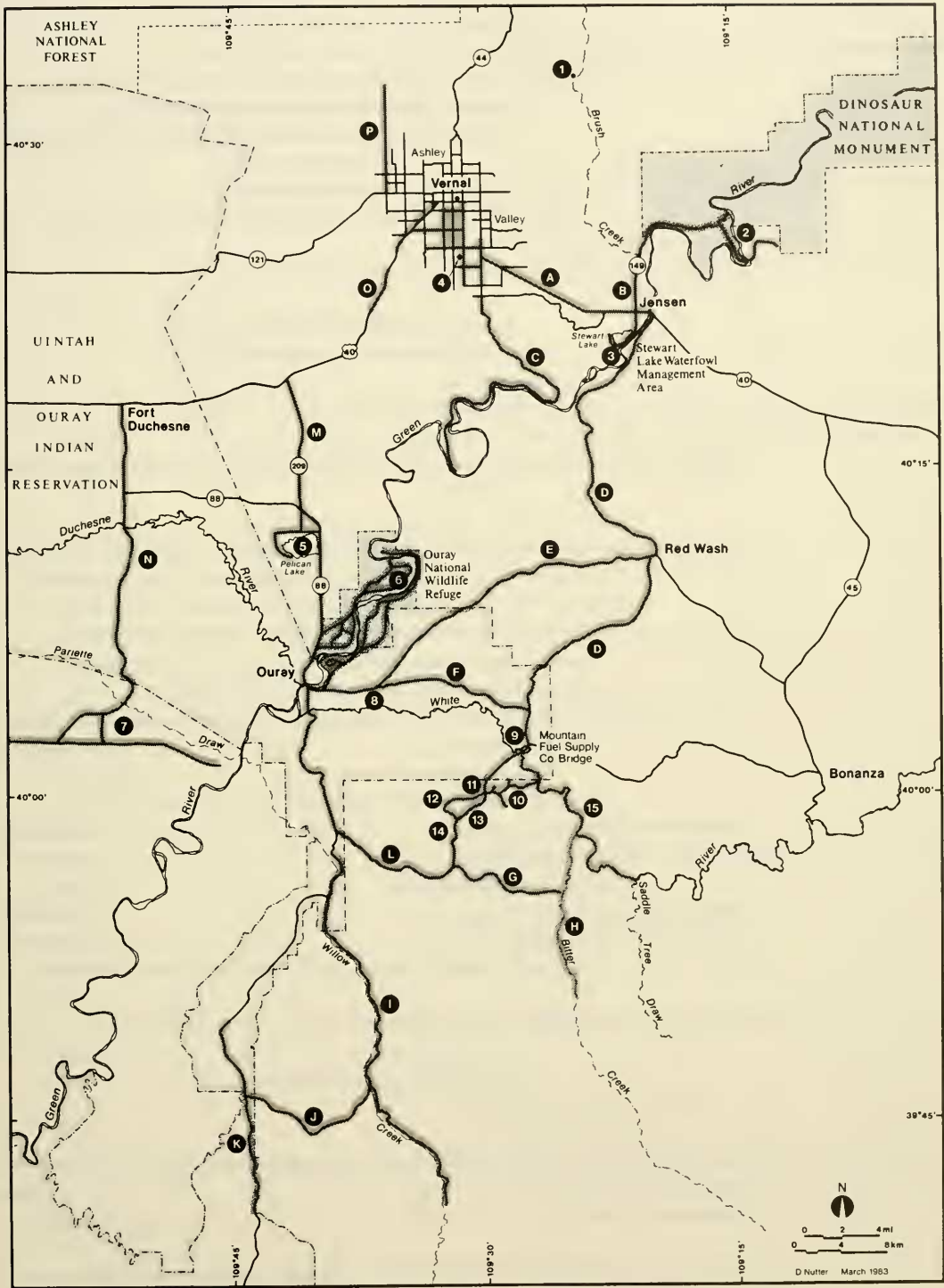
## OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSION

### Gaviiformes

#### *Gaviidae*

**Common Loon (*Gavia immer*).** Most sightings occurred during migration in April, May, and September at Pelican Lake (Twomey 1942, Hayward et al. 1976, Sangster 1976, Leppert 1982, Fig. 2) and Bottle Hollow Resort (S. Madsen, pers. comm.). M. Lange, D. Chure, and L. Ferris saw two birds at Bottle Hollow Resort 4 July 1982

Fig. 1. Map of the desert region of Uintah County, Utah showing the routes and areas where the author made avian observations in 1977–1982: 1, Glade Holmes Ranch along Brush Creek 16 km northeast of Vernal. 2, Southwestern part of Dinosaur National Monument, Utah, and environs. 3, Stewart Lake Waterfowl Management Area. 4, Ashley Valley, particularly the author's backyard in Naples. 5, Pelican Lake and environs, including ponds to the east and west. 6, Ouray National Wildlife Refuge. 7, Pariette Wetlands Wildlife Management Area. 8, Cottonwood Grove north of the White River, 7 km southeast of Ouray. 9, Area in vicinity of Mountain Fuel Supply Company bridge on the White River. 10, Sand Wash and roads in its vicinity. 11, Area at 40°00'N, 109°31'W. 12, Interspersed Black Sagebrush and Spiny Hopsage-Shadscale-Horsebrush communities and a pond at 40°00'N, 109°32'W. 13, Mixed desert scrub community in sand dunes at 39°59'N, 109°31'W. 14, Wash with vegetation dominated by greasewood and environs of that wash at 39°57 to 58'N, 109°32'W. 15, White River between West Fork of Saddle Tree Draw and Mountain Fuel Supply Company bridge. A, U.S. Highway 40 between Vernal and Jensen. B, Utah State Highway 149 between Stewart Lake Waterfowl Management Area and Dinosaur National Monument. C, Route extending from the intersection of Roads 1500 East and 5000 South, south of Naples, to Horseshoe Bend of the Green River. D, Road extending from Green River bridge at Jensen to Mountain Fuel Supply Company White River bridge via Red Wash. E, Glen Bench Road extending from Red Wash Road to the southern Ouray-Bonanza Road. F, Road extending from Green River bridge at Ouray to Road D. G, Road extending to the Bitter Creek Basin from junction of road proceeding to Mountain Fuel Supply Company bridge and road proceeding to Ouray via Seep Ridge Road. H, Road in Bitter Creek Basin continuing from confluence of Bitter Creek and White River south for 16 km. I, Road along Willow Creek. J, Road passing through Green Canyon between Willow Creek and Hill Creek. K, Road along Hill Creek. L, Road extending to Seep Ridge Road and thence to Ouray from junction of road proceeding to Mountain Fuel Supply Company bridge and road proceeding to Bitter Creek Basin. M, Road extending from U.S. Highway 40 to Ouray via Utah Highways 209 and 88. N, Road extending from U.S. Highway 40 south to Pariette Wetlands Wildlife Management Area via Fort Duchesne. O, Section of U.S. Highway 40 southwest of Asphalt Ridge.





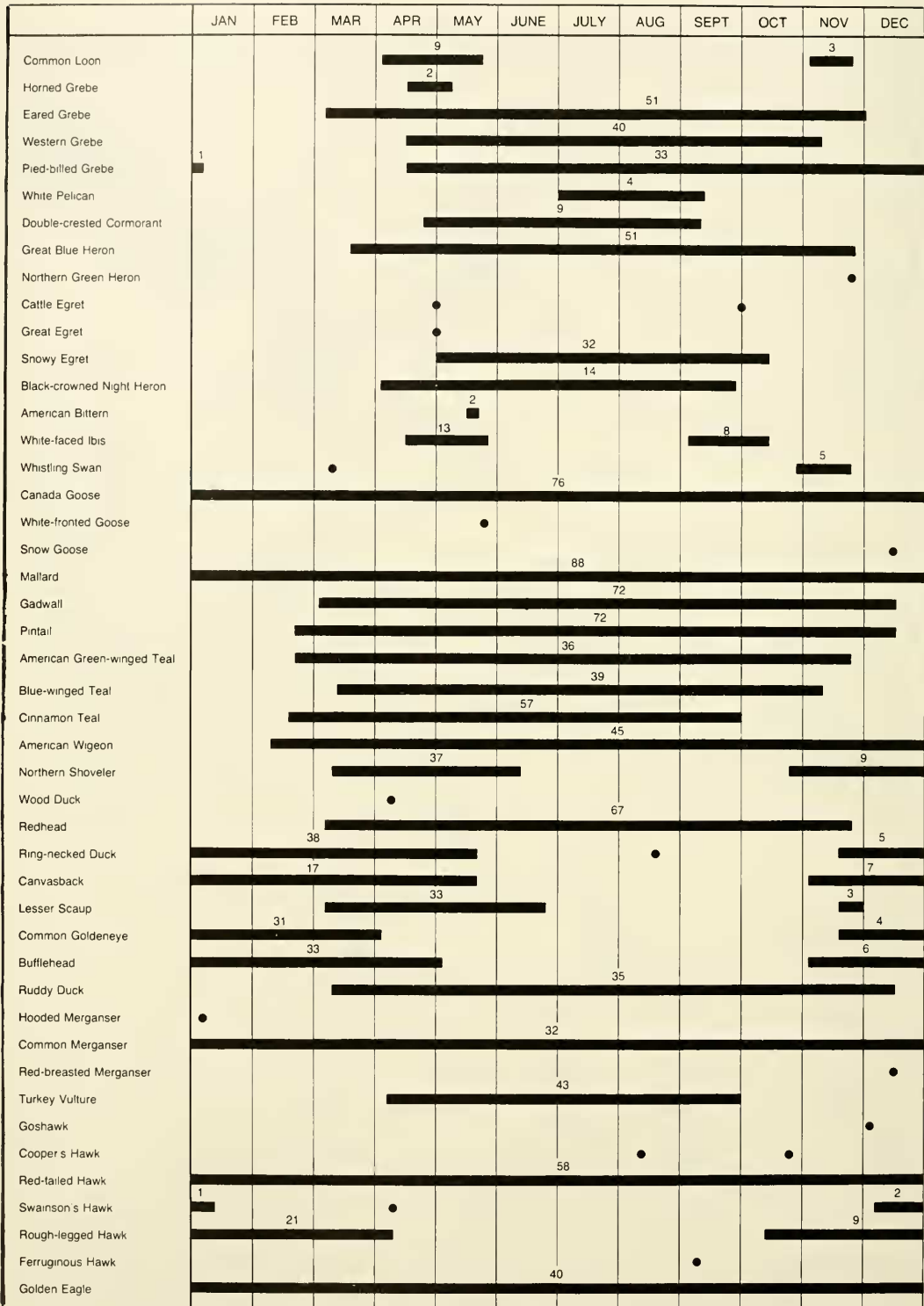


Fig. 2. Periods of avian occurrence and number of different days that bird species were observed in this study. Figure 2 was completed before the latest check-list of North American birds was published by the American 'Ornithologists' Union (1982). The nomenclature and sequence of species listed in Figure 2 are according to Hayward et al. (1976).

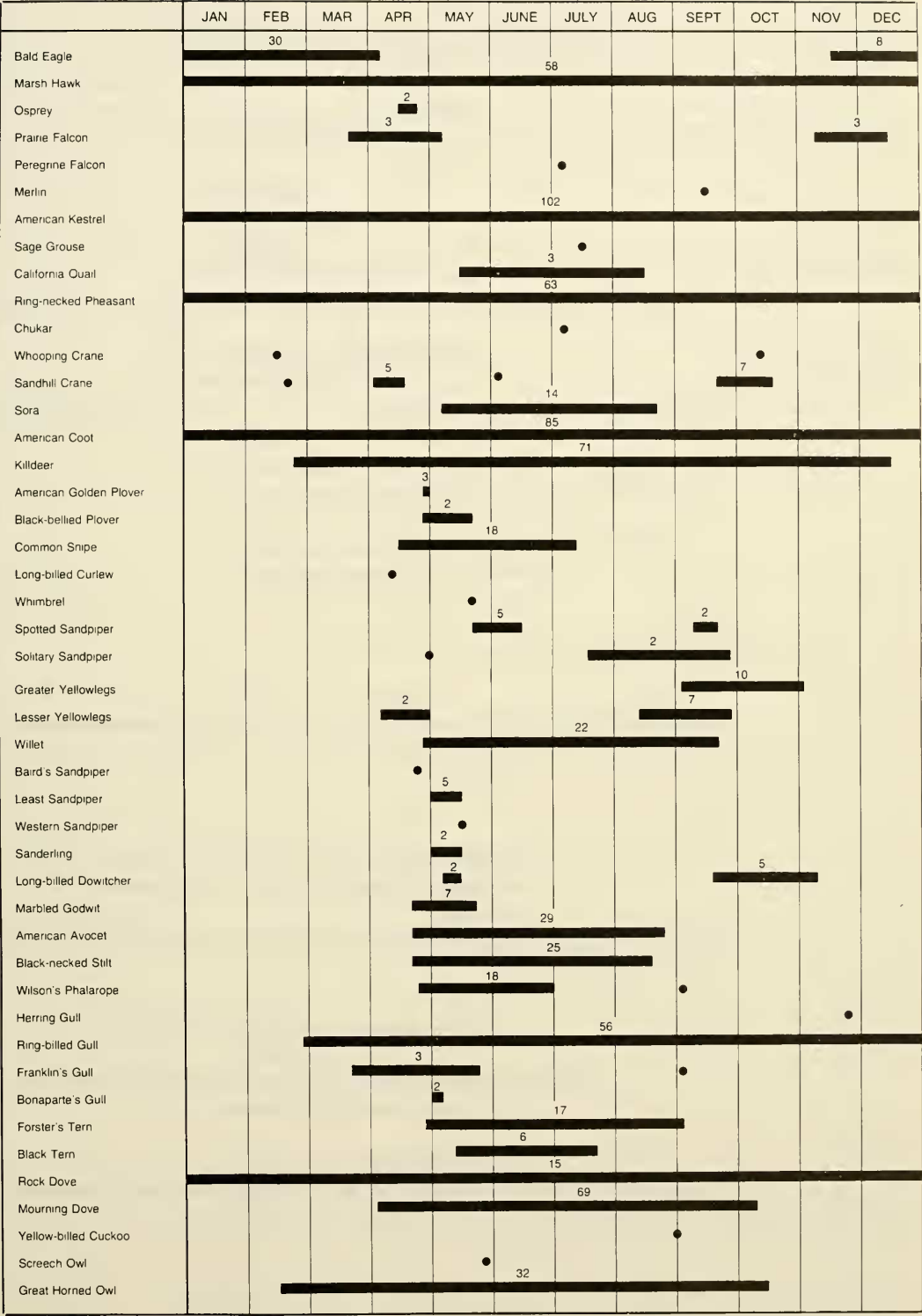


Fig. 2b (continued).

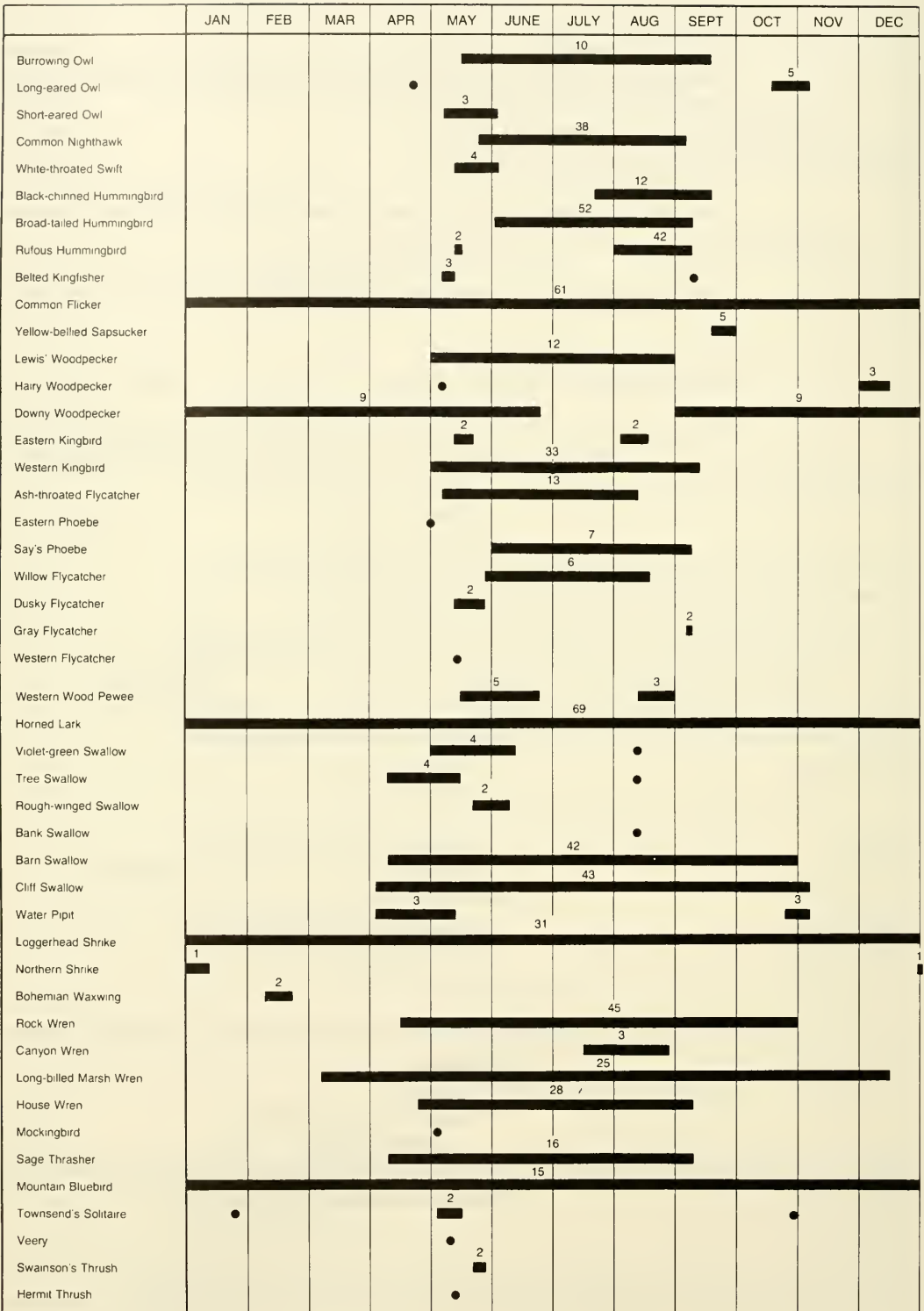
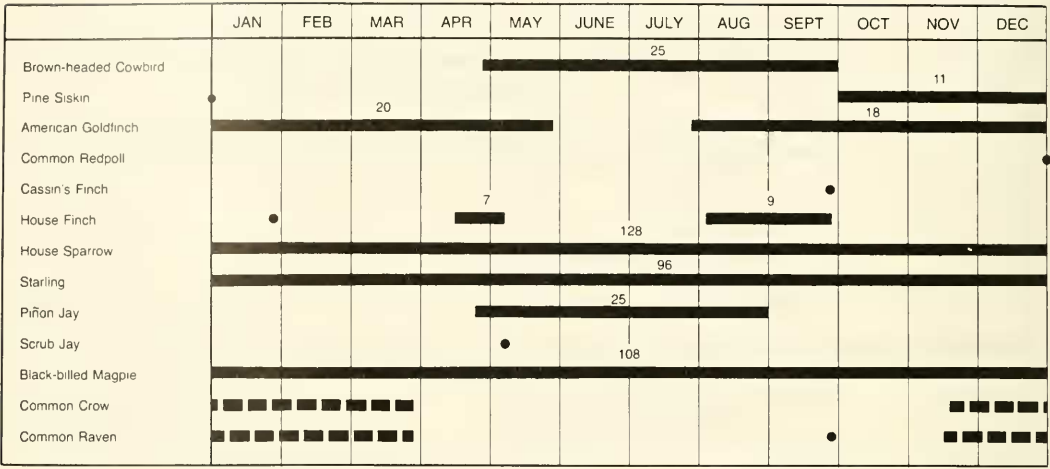


Fig. 2c (continued).



Fig. 2d (continued).





LEGEND

- 9 Bar shows time period during which a species was observed. Number above bar indicates the number of different days that the species was seen.
- Indicates a single day of observation of a species in a season.
- ■ ■ ■ Shows that a species was seen during a time period although no specific sighting date is available.

Fig. 2e (continued).

(D. Chure, pers. comm.), and E. Sorenson and R. Sorenson saw four birds in the Vernal area 7 July 1981 (Kingery 1981d). I observed the species as late as November (Fig. 2).

Podicipedidae

**Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*).** More common than in 1937 (Twomey 1942) due to the creation of Pelican Lake and ponds at ONWR and PWA. Young were observed in the present study at the permanent pond east and across Utah Highway 88 from Pelican Lake (Fig. 1) 16 July 1981. The commonly occurring species of grebes in Uintah County do not overwinter there (Fig. 2) as they do in some parts of Utah (Hayward et al. 1976).

**Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*).** At ONWR, one bird was observed by L. Malone (Kingery 1980a) 11 March 1980. I saw one individual at the front (west) pond of ONWR and the pond 1 km west of Pelican Lake (Figs. 1–2). On 15–16 May 1982, Utah Field Ornithologists sighted 2 individuals at Pelican Lake and a total of 10 birds in the Uinta Basin (Leppert 1982). N. Hawk (D. Chure, in

litt.) saw 2 birds in winter plumage on Green River at Dinosaur National Monument 28 August 1982.

**Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*).** These have increased numerically (Fig. 2) since 1937 (Twomey 1942). A colony of more than 50 nested at Woods Bottom of ONWR in 1981 and 1982 (T. Tornow and H. G. Troester, pers. comm.).

**Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*).** Recorded as a migrant in 1937 (Twomey 1942). At least 13 sightings of the species in addition to mine (Fig. 2) were made from 18 April–19 September in 1956, 1961, 1963, 1964, 1966, 1967, 1981, and 1982 (Hayward 1967, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.).

Pelecaniformes

Pelecanidae

**American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*).** A few birds were seen in May 1937–1963 (Twomey 1942, Hayward 1966, Hayward 1967, D. Chure, in litt.). At ONWR, White Pelicans were seen 15 September–13 November 1980, 10–24 April

1981 (38 birds), and 23 June 1981 (43 individuals; Kingery 1981a, T. Tornow, pers. comm.). In April 1981, the bill of some males bore a protuberance suggesting that they were already in breeding condition as they migrated northward (T. Tornow, pers. comm.). The Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources (Kingery 1981d) noted that 40–50 non-breeding individuals summered in the Vernal area in 1981 when over 50 were seen simultaneously at the desiltation pond of PWA, where they remained throughout the summer (K. L. Parr and D. Zalunardo, pers. comm., Fig. 2). D. Chure and L. Ferris (pers. comm.) sighted 3 (2 with a protuberance of the bill) at SLWMA 18–19 April 1982. I observed one individual twice at Pelican Lake and twice at Woods Bottom Pond of ONWR (Fig. 2).

#### *Phalacrocoracidae*

**Double-crested Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax auritus*). More abundant than in 1937 (Twomey 1942) due to the creation of a pond with cottonwood snags in its center approximately 1 km west of Pelican Lake and the establishment of ponds and marshes at PWA and ONWR (Fig. 1). At the rookery west of Pelican Lake, R. Sorenson and E. Sorenson (Kingery 1981c) observed 10 occupied nests 2 May 1981 and 18 such nests 27 June 1981. Utah Field Ornithologists saw 53 birds there and 3 at ONWR 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982). At PWA, I observed immature individuals 30 June and 3 adults 7 July 1981 (Fig. 2). I sighted the species at ONWR, Pelican Lake, and the rookery 1 km west of Pelican Lake, where I observed 34 individuals on nests 24 April and 42–50 birds 1, 7, 14, and 21 May 1982 (Fig. 2).

#### Ciconiiformes

##### *Ardeidae*

**Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*). One seen at ONWR by T. Tornow (pers. comm.) in the spring of 1979 and 1981 and by H. G. Troester (pers. comm.) in summer 1982. The species was also observed by M. Bromley at Jensen (presumably at SLWMA) in May 1983 (Kingery 1983).

**Great Egret** (*Casmerodius albus*). Seen in the Jensen area in May and September (Twomey 1942, D. Chure, in litt.). D. Chure and L. Ferris (pers. comm.) observed one bird at the pond 1 km west of Pelican Lake 25 April 1981. I saw one individual 1 May 1982 approximately 30 m away from a Great Blue Heron at the northwest end of the pond 1 km west of Pelican Lake (Figs. 1–2).

**Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*). Seen at ONWR in May 1981 (H. G. Troester, pers. comm.).

**Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*). H. G. Troester (pers. comm., Behle 1981) observed one along Ashley Creek about 3 km northwest of Vernal 1 November 1978. It was also seen in the Vernal area in spring 1981 (Kingery 1981c). I observed two at and near the diked marsh located at the northwest end of Pelican Lake and 17 in a pasture at site 4 (Figs. 1–2).

**Green-backed Heron** (*Butorides striatus*). Sighted in fall 1978 (Kingery 1979a, Behle 1981) and observed at ONWR in spring 1981 (H. Troester, pers. comm.). Both adults and immatures were observed there 24 July 1981 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.). I saw one at Woods Bottom Pond of ONWR (Figs. 1–2).

#### *Threskiornithidae*

**White-faced Ibis** (*Plegadis chihi*). At ONWR, 50 nests were found in 1979, 160 birds were seen 12–14 May 1981, and 31 birds were observed 23–24 July 1981 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.). In both 1980 and 1981, it appeared to nest at ONWR (T. Tornow, pers. comm.). I sighted it on 21 different days (Fig. 2).

#### Anseriformes

##### *Anatidae*

**Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*). I observed one at ONWR with a flock of Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) 24 May 1978 (Fig. 2).

**Snow Goose** (*Chen caerulescens*). Seen at Stewart Lake 28 October 1957 (Hayward 1967), PWA in mid-November (D. Zalunardo, pers. comm.), ONWR 21 May 1966 (Behle 1981) and November 1982 when 9 were sighted (H. G. Troester, pers. comm.), and at Pelican Lake 14 March 1975 (17

birds—Sangster 1977) and 16 December 1981 (1 bird—Fig. 2).

**Ross' Goose** (*Chen rossii*). Reportedly observed at ONWR in spring 1981 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.).

**Wood Duck** (*Aix sponsa*). T. Tornow (pers. comm.) observed it at ONWR 7 October 1980. At PWA, a male was seen 15 October 1981 and a female was observed during the first week of November 1981 (K. L. Parr and D. Zalundardo, pers. comm.). H. G. Vickers, an associate of the author, observed one in the marsh at the southeast end of Pelican Lake 6 April 1982 (Fig. 2). R. Sjostrom (M. Lange, pers. comm.) saw three individuals in early October 1982.

**Green-winged Teal** (*Anas crecca*). Regarded by Behle (1981) as an uncommon summer resident and an occasional winter visitant in northeastern Utah. It is now a common migrant and spring, summer, and fall resident (a species was considered to be a fall resident when it was sighted from late September through most or all of November) in Uintah County (Fig. 2).

The **Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*), **Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*), and **Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*) are presently abundant in Uintah County (Fig. 2) and are more plentiful now than in 1937 (Twomey 1942) due to the establishment of Pelican Lake and the marshes at ONWR and PWA. Northern Pintails and Gadwalls are common nesters at PWA (D. Zalundardo, pers. comm.). Gadwalls have not been seen in Uintah County in January and February, but Killpack (1959) observed four on 29 December 1958. I did not see Northern Pintails from 16 December to 19 February (Fig. 2).

**Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*). Considered by Behle (1981) to be uncommon breeders in northeastern Utah. They are presently common spring and summer residents and migrants in Uintah County (Fig. 2).

**Cinnamon Teal** (*Anas cyanoptera*). Presently a common spring and summer resident and migrant in Uintah County (Fig. 2).

**Eurasian Wigeon** (*Anas penelope*). One observed at PWA in April 1979 (D. Zalundardo, pers. comm.).

**American Wigeon** (*Anas americana*). Considered to be rare in northern Utah (Behle and Perry 1975a) and less than common (occasional breeder) in northeastern Utah (Behle

1981) during summer. I found it to be a common migrant and spring, summer, and fall resident in Uintah County (Fig. 2).

**Canvasback** (*Aythya valisineria*). Although previously reported as uncommon (Hayward 1967, Behle and Perry 1975a, Behle 1981), Canvasbacks are now common migrants and winter residents (Fig. 2). A Canvasback brood of two was seen at ONWR in 1980 and a hen was observed there 16 July 1981 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.).

**Redhead** (*Aythya americana*). Although formerly considered a hypothetical breeder (Hayward 1967, Behle 1981), it is now abundant in Uintah County except in winter (Fig. 2).

**Ring-necked Duck** (*Aythya collaris*). Considered to be a casual (Hayward et al. 1976) or uncommon (Behle and Perry 1975a) migrant, occasional winter visitant (Behle and Perry 1975a), and rare summer resident (Hayward et al. 1976) in Utah. In Colorado, the species is a regular migrant and an uncommon summer resident (Bailey and Niedrach 1965). Ring-necked Ducks, now common, arrive in Uintah County at about the same time that Common Goldeneyes do in fall but remain there longer in spring (Fig. 2). They are most prevalent from March to May. In 1981 at the west pond of ONWR, T. Tornow (pers. comm.) saw a male 23 July and I observed one 18 August (Fig. 2).

**Lesser Scaup** (*Aythya affinis*). Regarded as rare (Behle and Perry 1975a) or uncommon (Hayward et al. 1976) breeders in northern Utah or nonbreeders in northeastern Utah (Behle 1981). It nested at ONWR in 1979 and 1980 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.) and at PWA in July 1981. At Pelican Lake, it is common in spring and scarce in fall (Fig. 2).

**Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*). Regarded by Behle and Perry (1975a) and Behle (1981) as an uncommon migrant and winter visitant in Utah and northeastern Utah, respectively. It is a common winter resident (Fig. 2).

**Barrow's Goldeneye** (*Bucephala islandica*). A male was reported by J. M. Good (Beidleman, in litt.) at the bend of the Green River northeast of Escalante's Crossing near the southwest entrance to Dinosaur National Monument 29 February 1956.

**Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*). Considered to be an uncommon migrant but not



winter resident in northeastern Utah (Behle 1981). In Uintah County, it is now also a common winter resident and is more frequently seen in spring than fall (Fig. 2).

**Hooded Merganser** (*Lophodytes cucullatus*). A male and female were seen at ONWR 6 March 1981 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.). The species was reported at PWA in spring 1981 (K. L. Parr, pers. comm.). I observed several on a stream in SLWMA 6 January 1982 (Fig. 2).

**Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*). Twomey's (1942) study extended from 1 May to 30 September 1937 and he did not see the species in Uintah County. Sightings there are from February to the first week of June 1966, 1967, 1975, 1976, 1980, and 1982 (Anonymous 1977, Sangster 1977, Behle 1981, Lepert 1982, T. Tornow, pers. comm.). In the Roosevelt area (including part of western Uintah County), Common Mergansers were seen in December 1953, 1954, and 1956-58 (Crittenden et al. 1955, Killpack 1957, 1958, 1959, Killpack et al. 1954). In the Jensen area, 13 were seen 26 December 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.). I observed the species every month except June and September (Fig. 2) and saw large flocks on Pelican Lake in winter, particularly in March. It is a common permanent resident (Fig. 2).

**Red-breasted Merganser** (*Mergus serrator*). Frequented the Green River floodplain in early May and late September 1937, when one to five individuals were observed feeding on that river or Stewart Lake nearly every day (Twomey 1942). Since then, it has been less common. Hayward (1967) observed it on Green River near Ouray 18 May 1958. S. Madsen (pers. comm.) saw three males and two females at Bottle Hollow Resort 19 April 1980. The species was seen at PWA in spring 1981 (D. Zalunardo and K. L. Parr, pers. comm.) and at Pelican Lake 16 December 1981 (Fig. 2). T. Tornow (pers. comm.) observed it at the pond near the west entrance to ONWR in spring 1982.

**Ruddy Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis*). Although considered a common migrant and rare winter resident in northeastern Utah (Behle 1981), I observed it throughout the summer (Fig. 2) and sighted young at Pelican Lake 16 July 1981. The latest sighting in Uintah County or eastern Duchesne County dur-

ing winter was 29 December (Killpack et al. 1956). The species is a common spring, summer, and fall resident (Fig. 2).

## Falconiformes

### Accipitridae

**Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*). One bird was sighted at SLWMA 1 km beyond its entrance 28 April 1975 by S. Baese, R. King, and B. King (D. Chure, in litt.). According to D. B. Beard (Beidleman, in litt.), Ranger Baldwin of Dinosaur National Monument observed Ospreys nesting at Split Mountain (probably not in the desert region of Uintah County) about 1936-1937. Twice I saw one in a cottonwood tree southwest of Pelican Lake (Fig. 2). Perhaps that was the bird seen at the pond 1 km west of Pelican Lake 1 May 1982 by D. Chure, L. Ferris, M. Lange, and N. Howk (D. Chure, pers. comm.). The above sightings may have been of birds that breed at Flaming Gorge Reservoir, where there were six nesting pairs in 1979 and 1980 according to P. Wagner (Kingery 1980b). Other sightings have been reported by Twomey (1942), Hayward (1967), and Behle (1981).

**Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). In Uintah County, more than 21 sightings were made from 27 November to 26 February 1954, 1966, 1967, 1974, 1975, 1977, and 1982 (Behle and Perry 1975b, Behle 1981, D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.). I observed it on 38 different days (Fig. 2). In early January, personnel of the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, flew over the Green River from Split Mountain, Dinosaur National Monument, to Sand Wash (in Uintah and western Duchesne counties) and counted 22 birds in 1980, 33 in 1981, and 45 in 1982 (S. Madsen, pers. comm.). At ONWR, 52 were seen at Woods Bottom in February 1982 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.) and/or 7 March 1982 (M. Lange, pers. comm.).

**Northern Harrier** (*Circus cyaneus*). Hayward et al. (1976) noted that few remain in lower valleys of Utah in winter. In Uintah County I observed as many in winter as in summer (Fig. 2). Many other winter observations have been made there (Crittenden et al. 1953, 1955, Killpack 1957, 1958, 1959, Killpack et al. 1952, 1954, 1956, Behle 1981).



**Sharp-shinned Hawk** (*Accipiter striatus*). Considered by Behle and Perry (1975a), Hayward et al. (1976), Behle (1981), and Twomey (1942) to be common in desert-riparian habitat as well as montane forests in Utah. In Colorado, it is reportedly uncommon (Bailey and Niedrach 1965). I did not observe it. In what was possibly the desert region of Dinosaur National Monument, one was seen south of Josie Morris Cabin by B. Ingber 9 July 1980, in the "Frontier Formation" by J. Freilich 13 September 1978, in Orchid Draw west of Dinosaur Quarry Visitor Center by W. Truesdell 10 September 1973, and "Shinarrump Hogback" 200 m west of Split Mountain Campground by D. Thompson 10 January 1966 (D. Chure, in litt.). One was seen at the Jensen refuse site by D. Chure and L. Ferris (pers. comm.) 28 November 1982.

**Cooper's Hawk** (*Accipiter cooperii*). In the desert region of Uintah County, it has been seen on at least 29 occasions from 12 April to 31 [sic] September 1948, 1966, 1971, 1974, 1975, and 1978–1982 (Behle and Perry 1975b, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, D. Chure, in litt., Fig. 2), but 20 of those observations occurred in or adjacent to Dinosaur National Monument (D. Chure, in litt., Fig. 2). It nested along White River in 1975 (Behle 1981) and 400 m from the Dinosaur Quarry Visitor Center in 1981 and 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.). Presently two nests occur at T3S, R20E, T3S, R21E, and T3S, R25E and one each at T3S, R23E, T3S, 22E, T2S, R22E, T4S, R22E, T10S, R24E, and T9S, R26E (J. S. Cranney, pers. comm.).

**Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*). One seen along Seep Ridge Road 32 km south of Ouray 29 September 1974 (Behle 1981). I observed one on a bluff in badlands near Sand Wash at site 10 (Figs. 1–2). D. Chure and L. Ferris (pers. comm.) observed another at Jensen 16 December 1980. The species was seen at PWA 11 and 19 February 1981 (D. Zalunardo and K. L. Parr, pers. comm.). M. Horton and S. Madsen (S. Madsen, pers. comm.) saw one in cottonwoods along Deep Creek approximately 1.5 km north of Lapoint (possibly in the desert region of Uintah County) 10 December 1981. Utah Field Ornithologists sighted one at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982). In Uintah County, it has not been observed to nest in valleys (J. S. Cranney, in

litt.) as it did on a Yampa River floodplain in Moffat County, Colorado, 800 m east of the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Park (White et al. 1965).

**Broad-winged Hawk** (*Buteo platypterus*). Reported at "Dinosaur, Utah" (presumably Dinosaur National Monument, Utah) between 1 March and 31 May 1982 by J. Burns and M. Webb (Kingery 1982). Utah Field Ornithologists saw one immature at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982), not 5 May 1982 as reported by White et al. (1983). Nine Utah sightings have been reported (Kingery 1983).

**Swainson's Hawk** (*Buteo swainsoni*). Reported to be present in Utah from 22 March to 10 November (Behle and Perry 1975a), occasional in Utah during winter (Hayward et al. 1976), or rare in the Uinta Basin then (Behle 1981). It is the most abundant buteo in Colorado, where it is common in summer, abundant in migration, and rare in winter (Bailey and Niedrach 1965).

In Dinosaur National Monument, one was observed by E. Sorenson and R. Sorenson 21 February 1981 (Kingery 1981b), at a pump immediately southwest of Josie Morris Cabin by B. Ingber 11 June 1980 (D. Chure, in litt.), and at Green River Campground by N. Stephan 21 August 1973 (D. Chure, in litt.). Crittenden et al. (1953) saw one in the Roosevelt area (including part of western Uintah County) 23 December 1952. The species was observed at Dragon (possibly in the desert region of Uintah County) 4 September 1974 (Behle 1981). I observed one immature and one adult near Pelican Lake, one adult in Vernal and at site 4, and a flock of 4 in desert scrub habitat at 39°59'N, 109°30'W near the western end of the major road at site 10 (Figs. 1–2). Utah Field Ornithologists sighted 2 at Pelican Lake and 11 in the Ouray area 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982, D. Chure, pers. comm.). Two nests were found at T7S, R25E, Sec. 21 (J. S. Cranney, pers. comm.). The species' numbers have apparently declined since 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**Ferruginous Hawk** (*Buteo regalis*). Reported as rare (Behle and Perry 1975a) or seldom seen (Hayward et al. 1976) in Utah during winter. In an area including part of western Uintah County, one was seen in late December 1951–1953 and 1958 (Crittenden et al. 1953, Killpack 1959, Killpack et al. 1952,

1954). At ONWR, M. Lange (pers. comm.) saw one several times throughout the winter of 1981–1982 and Utah Field Ornithologists sighted a raptor they believed was a Ferruginous Hawk 15 or 16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982, M. Lange, pers. comm.). W. H. Dines (D. Chure, in litt.) observed one near the Escalante Ranch House south of southwestern Dinosaur National Monument 31 July 1981. J. Metz and I sighted one along a road 1.5 km southwest of MFB (site 9) 9 September 1981 (Figs. 1–2). Ferruginous Hawks are believed to nest at PWA, where they were observed during the nonbreeding season from early November 1980 to 6 January 1981 (D. Zalunardo and K. L. Parr, pers. comm.). In 1981 and 1982, personnel with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (J. S. Cranney, pers. comm.) found 14 nests 3.0–14.5 km west of the Utah–Colorado border (40°06 to 09'N, 109°05 to 13' W). Three of them were active in both 1981, and four (not necessarily the same ones) were active in 1982 (J. S. Cranney, pers. comm.). The present distribution of the species in Uintah County is localized. During a two-hour period on 5 May 1937, Twomey (1942) observed 40 birds spaced approximately 1.0–1.5 km apart flying northward over Green River near what is now SLWMA.

### Falconidae

**Merlin** (*Falco columbarius*). The species was seen in May and September 1937 (Twomey 1942) and September 1974 (Behle 1974). In an area including part of western Uintah County, two were sighted 29 December in 1954 (Crittenden et al. 1955) and 1955 (Killpack et al. 1956). I observed one flying over desert habitat in the vicinity of site 10 (Figs. 1–2). The species was more common in 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*). Apparently less common (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942). G. L. Richards observed a pair at what is now SLWMA in 1961 (Porter and White 1973), where Twomey (1942) saw the species. One was observed on three occasions in early May 1975 400 m north of Ignatio Stage Stop at T10S, R24E, Sec. 2 (Behle 1981). At ONWR, Peregrine Falcons were observed eating a Green-winged Teal 6 April 1981 (M. Lange, pers. comm.) and Red-

winged Blackbirds 24 March 1982 (M. Lange and T. Tornow, pers. comm.). I saw an immature at 39°59'N, 109°31'W when the Desert Cottontail population in Uintah County was dense (unpubl. data). The bird flew away with a Desert Cottontail hanging from its talons. After flying about 30 m, the falcon alighted and allowed me to approach within 40 m of it. After remaining at one spot for about 7 min, it took off again. Peregrine Falcons seldom prey on mammals, although remains of hares, squirrels, and field mice have been seen near their nests (Bent 1961). A Peregrine Falcon seen by E. C. Peck and J. Gas-kill in montane habitat 400 m southeast of Pine Spring, Uintah County 10 July 1966 was carrying a small jackrabbit (Behle 1981).

### Galliformes

#### Phasianidae

**Chukar** (*Alectoris chukar*). Behle and Perry (1975b) and Behle (1981) noted that it is a common permanent resident in the oil shale area of Uintah County and northeastern Utah, respectively. However, the only records reported by Behle (1981) indicating that it occurred in what is possibly the desert region of Uintah County were of a flock of 20 and the collection of one specimen along Hill Creek 32–37 km south of Ouray 23 July 1966. Few observations of the species have been made in lowlands since. In Dinosaur National Monument, E. G. Goick saw 35 Chukars 25 January 1962 and the species in February 1965; J. W. Todd observed 2 birds 28 April 1963; S. Chalkley observed it 16 June 1975; D. C. Thompson sighted 3 birds 24 July 1963 and the species 1 October 1963 (D. Chure, in litt.).

From 1952 to 1966, 3005 Chukars were released at three sites, including Bitter Creek (Olsen 1973). They extended their range for several years and then declined in abundance (Olsen 1973). From 1977 to 1982, I observed none until shortly after many were stocked along Bitter Creek in 1981 by the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources. Three groups comprising about 70 tame individuals were observed near Bitter Creek between 5 and 12 km south of its confluence with White River (Figs. 1–2).

**Sage Grouse** (*Centrocercus urophasianus*). Three of the four leks that Olsen (1973) observed were apparently at least partially in desert habitat. Twomey (1942) saw the species only in mountains. L. Caterling (D. Chure, in litt.) observed two adults and four chicks one-third grown at or near the D. Chew Ranch south of southwestern Dinosaur National Monument (Fig. 1) 17 July 1965. I observed several birds along Road 1 in a greasewood stand near Willow Creek (Figs. 1-2). In 1982, personnel with the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources, located one lek on Deadman Bench east of Red Wash and another on East Bench southeast of Ouray (S. Madsen, pers. comm.). Two active leks possibly occurring in the desert region of Uintah County exist in Twelve-mile Wash north of U.S. Highway 40 and close to a seismological station near Asphalt Ridge (D. Zalunardo, pers. comm.).

**California Quail** (*Callipepla californica*). Introduced into the Uinta Basin about 1914 (Twomey 1942) and considered by Behle and Perry (1975a) and Hayward et al. (1976) to be well established in northern Utah. It was common in 1937 (Twomey 1942). A specimen was collected approximately 1.5 km south of Fort Duchesne 19 June 1966 (Behle 1981). I observed it only three times, twice along roads near agricultural land in Ashley Valley (at the intersection of 1500 North and 1500 East and on 500 East at about 1000 South) and once 50 m southeast of the Green River bridge at Ouray (Figs. 1-2). Twomey (1942) remarked that severe winters with heavy snowfall are detrimental to the quail. Perhaps, they were more common in 1937 than at present in Uintah County because of several years of mild or moderate winters prior to 1937.

## Gruiformes

### Rallidae

**Virginia Rail** (*Rallus limicola*). A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) regarded it as common at what is now SLWMA in 1934 and 1935 and collected a juvenile male there on 9 August 1934. Twomey (1942) saw individuals along the west border of Ashley Creek marshes (SLWMA) in July and the last week of September 1937 and collected four. Only one

sighting in what was possibly Uintah County has been recorded since 1937 (Killpack 1957). Using electronic recordings of the vocalizations of Virginia Rails, a member of Utah Field Ornithologists attracted two within view at ONWR 15 or 16 May 1982 when M. Lange heard many (M. Lange, pers. comm., Leppert 1982). The species was observed at PWA 19 May 1982 (S. Madsen, pers. comm.).

**Sora** (*Porzana carolina*). Uncommon in 1937 (Twomey 1942) and only one has been reported in published works since (Behle 1981). Utah Field Ornithologists sighted three 15-16 May 1982 at ONWR (Leppert 1982), where several nests were found in 1981 and 1982 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.). In spring 1982, a dead bird was found at ONWR, where it is preserved (M. Lange, pers. comm.). I heard the Sora at ONWR and on several occasions at a small marsh at site 4 (Figs. 1-2).

**Common Moorhen** (*Gallinula chloropus*). One observed at ONWR 24 May 1967 by E. C. Peck and associates (Behle 1981), 10-11 May 1977 by ONWR personnel (Behle 1981), in 1981 by T. Tornow (pers. comm.), and 1 May 1982 by D. Chure, M. Lange, L. Ferris, and N. Howk (M. Lange, pers. comm.).

### Gruidae

**Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*). J. Metz saw one at SLWMA unusually early 20 February in 1981, and I observed a flock over site 4 3 June 1982, long after most members of the species had left Uintah County (Figs. 1-2).

**Whooping Crane** (*Grus americana*). As many as four birds were seen at ONWR or SLWMA until 6 October in 1976 and "all summer" in 1977 (Kingery 1976, Behle 1981). I observed one 11 October 1978 flying among a flock of about 70 south-bound Sandhill Cranes above the confluence of Bitter Creek and White River (Figs. 1-2). On 15 February 1981, J. Metz, an associate of the author, and C. Metz observed one at SLWMA (Kingery 1981b, Fig. 2) before the major migratory flock of Sandhill Cranes arrived in early April. At ONWR, one was seen by M. Lange on 5 October 1982 and by M. Lange, R. Clemens, and others 6 October 1982 (M. Lange, pers. comm.). H. G. Troester



and M. Lange (pers. comm.) sighted an immature with an attached radio transmitter there 9 October 1982. At or near SLWMA, personnel of the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources, saw single individuals in 1981 and 1982, and D. L. Shirley and G. M. Webb sighted one adult and one immature in a flock of approximately 400 Sandhill Cranes 13 April 1983 (White et al. 1983).

### *Charadriidae*

**Black-bellied Plover** (*Pluvialis squatarola*). Hayward (1966) stated that it is a "consistent and fairly common" migrant at Pelican Lake where he saw as many as 30 birds. Four specimens in the Brigham Young University avian collection were taken at Pelican Lake 13 May 1961, 18 May 1963, 2 June 1964, and 23 September 1961 (Hayward 1966, 1967). The species has not been reported since 1964. J. Metz and I saw a flock near the east shore of Pelican Lake and I saw one on the west side of the diked marsh at the northwest end of Pelican Lake (Figs. 1–2). Utah Field Ornithologists observed 2 at Pelican Lake 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Lesser Golden Plover** (*Pluvialis dominica*). Twomey (1942) saw a flock of 46 in a plowed field south of Jensen 2 May 1937 and over what is now SLWMA 6 May 1937. One female was collected from a flock at Pelican Lake by Hayward (1966, 1967) 23 September 1961. C. Vigos, a consultant to Tosco Corporation, reported it 29–30 April 1976, and I observed it at Pelican Lake 27 April 1981 (Fig. 2).

**Snowy Plover** (*Charadrius alexandrinus*). Hayward (1967) observed a small flock at Pelican Lake 18 May 1963 and S. Hedges, R. Sorenson, and E. Sorenson saw four near Randlett (presumably at or near Pelican Lake) 2 May 1981 (Kingery 1981c). Utah Field Ornithologists saw two at Pelican Lake 15 or 16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Semipalmated Plover** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*). During "early May and September" of 1937, Twomey (1942) frequently observed two to five along sand bars of Green River and at the confluence of Green and White Rivers. Behle (1981) did not see it. The Brigham Young University avian collection includes two specimens collected at Pelican

Lake 23 September 1961 and 29 September 1962 (Hayward 1967). Utah Field Ornithologists reported seeing two at Pelican Lake 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Killdeer** (*Charadrius vociferus*). I did not observe it between 16 December and 24 February (Fig. 2) but in an area including western Uintah County, it was seen in late December 1952 and 1954–1958 (Crittenden 1953, 1955, Killpack 1957, 1958, 1959, Killpack et al. 1956).

**Mountain Plover** (*Charadrius montanus*). B. H. Green and A. R. Johnson saw it at Kennedy Basin (40°05'N, 109°17'W) 18 km northwest of Bonanza 9 May–20 June 1979 and also east of Bonanza (White et al. 1983).

### *Recurvirostridae*

The **Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) and **American Avocet** (*Recurvirostra americana*) have become more numerous (Fig. 2) in Uintah County since 1937 (Twomey 1942) due to the establishment of Pelican Lake and the marshes and ponds at ONWR and PWA.

### *Scolopacidae*

**Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*). Considered by Behle (1981) to be common migrants in northeastern Utah. Based on my observations of them at Pelican Lake, Woods Bottom of ONWR, and SLWMA (Fig. 2), they are uncommon. Since 1937 (Twomey 1942), they have also been observed in Uintah County in April, 15 May, and 22 July to 4 September during 1966, 1967, and 1980 (Anonymous 1977, Hayward 1967, Behle 1981, D. Chure, in litt.). At ONWR, 12 were observed 22–24 June 1981 (T. Tornow, pers. comm.), when the species is known to breed in Canada and Alaska (Bent 1962c), so the members of the flock were apparently non-breeding summer residents.

**Lesser Yellowlegs** (*Tringa flavipes*). Evidently not as common now (Fig. 2) as in 1937 (Twomey 1942). Other sightings in Uintah County were made 20 July–23 September 1937, 1961, and 1966 (Hayward 1967, Behle 1981).

**Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*). A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) observed four or five almost every day of his study at what is now



SLWMA in 1934 and 1935. Twomey (1942) stated that in 1937 at least two pairs remained at the Ashley Creek marshes, where he presumed that they nested. A specimen housed at Brigham Young University was collected near Jensen 22 July 1937 (Hayward 1967). C. Vigos, a consultant to Tosco Corporation, saw it in the desert region of Uintah County 29 April 1976 (Fig. 2). I observed two at SLWMA and one at Pelican Lake (Fig. 2).

**Willet** (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*). Since 1937 (Twomey 1942), it has been observed 5 May–2 August 1966, 1967, 1977, and 1982 (Behle 1981, Leppert 1982). I observed young at Pelican Lake 23 June 1981. The creation of ponds and reservoirs in Uintah County in recent years accounts for the fact that it is now a common summer resident (Fig. 2).

**Whimbrel** (*Numenius phaeopus*). Seen by M. Webb in the Randlett area (presumably at or near Pelican Lake) in spring 1981 (Kingery 1981c). At the north end of the marsh situated at the northwest end of Pelican Lake, I observed one 21 May 1982 (Fig. 2).

**Long-billed Curlew** (*Numenius americanus*). Only four sightings of it in Uintah County have been published (Twomey 1942, Behle 1981). From 1979 to 1981 it was seen from April to August east of Green River at a water pump house approximately 4 km north of Woods Bottom Pond in ONWR, where it was believed to nest (T. Tornow, pers. comm.). At Wyasket Bottom of ONWR, M. Lange (pers. comm.) observed birds throughout their breeding season. T. Tornow (pers. comm.) saw young in 1979, and L. Littleton observed young several years earlier (T. Tornow, pers. comm.). H. L. Vickers and G. Limb, associates of the author, saw one approximately 6.5 km west of Bonanza on the Ouray-Bonanza road (T9S, R24E, Sec. 20) far from water 14 April 1982 (Fig. 2). Utah Field Ornithologists sighted eight at Pelican Lake 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*). Observed by birders R. Sorenson and E. Sorenson at a pond about 1 km west of Pelican Lake 2 May 1981, when seven were seen, and 5 May 1981, when two were observed (Kingery 1981c, M. L. Perry, pers. comm.). Those sightings constituted the second record of the

species in Utah (Scott 1968). Hudsonian Godwits were seen by M. Webb and others in the Pelican Lake area 15 May 1982, when a male accompanying a flock of 60 Marbled Godwits was collected (the third record for Utah—Kingery 1982, Leppert 1982, White et al. 1983).

**Marbled Godwit** (*Limosa fedoa*). Nests in Canada and the northern plains of the U.S. in late May and in June (Bent 1962b), so birds that Hayward (1967) observed flying over Pelican Lake 2 June and those that A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) saw during the first week of June were unusually late migrants. The abundance of the species in Uintah County has decreased since 1937 (Twomey 1942, Fig. 2).

**Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*). Apparently not as common (Fig. 2) as in 1935 and 1937 (Twomey 1942). Eight were collected on four occasions between 13 May 1961 and 12 May 1970 at Pelican Lake (Hayward 1967, Hayward et al. 1976), where my observations were made (Fig. 2).

**Western Sandpiper** (*Calidris mauri*). Considered by Hayward et al. (1976) to be an abundant migrant in Utah. Twomey (1942, 1944) saw hundreds during the first two weeks of May and in September 1937. Since then, only four published records have been made in Uintah County. Specimens were collected between 22 July 1961 and 13 May 1966 (Hayward 1967). I observed two on mud flats east and across Utah Highway 88 from Pelican Lake (Figs. 1–2). Utah Field Ornithologists observed one at Pelican Lake 15 or 16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Least Sandpiper** (*Calidris minutilla*). Regarded by Hayward et al. (1976) as an abundant migrant in Utah. However, records in Uintah County since 1937 (Twomey 1942) are few. At Pelican Lake, four sightings or collections were made 22 July 1961–19 September 1966 (Hayward 1967, Behle 1981). C. Vigos reported it 30 April–14 May 1976 (Fig. 2). Utah Field Ornithologists sighted one at Pelican Lake 15 or 16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Baird's Sandpiper** (*Calidris bairdii*). At Pelican Lake, two were collected 23 September 1961 (Hayward 1967) and one on both 19 August 1961 and 20 March 1967 (Behle 1981). No records in Uintah County have been made since. I observed three individuals

on the east shore of the diked marsh at the northwest end of Pelican Lake (Figs. 1–2). The incidence of it has declined since 1937 (Twomey 1942), perhaps due to the human invasion and disturbance of its winter range in Argentina and Chile (Bent 1962a).

**Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*). A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) saw one in a flock of Least Sandpipers 1 May 1935, and Hayward (1967) observed several small flocks at Pelican Lake 15 May 1966. R. Sorenson and E. Sorenson saw Dunlins at Randlett (presumably in the Pelican Lake area) 2 May 1981 (Kingery 1981c). One was observed at the dry bed of the west pond of ONWR 8 November 1981 by B. Clemens, D. Chure, L. Ferris, and M. Lange (D. Chure, pers. comm.).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*). Considered by Hayward et al. (1976) to be an abundant migrant. Based on both Twomey's (1942) study and mine (Fig. 2), it is an uncommon migrant in Uintah County, where it has been seen as early as 2 April (S. Madsen, pers. comm.) and as late as 10 November (Fig. 2).

**Common Snipe** (*Gallinago gallinago*). Considered to be common permanent resident in Utah (Behle and Perry 1975a, Hayward et al. 1976, Behle 1981). Based on Twomey's (1942) observations and mine (Fig. 2), it is uncommon in Uintah County. Most sightings there have been made April–June (Behle 1981, D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm., Fig. 2); in an area including western Uintah County, from one to five birds were seen in late December of 1953–1958 (Crittenden et al. 1955, Killpack 1957, 1958, 1959, Killpack et al. 1954, 1956).

**Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalaropus tricolor*). Although the species is less frequent during migration now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942), some are presently summer residents in Uintah County (Fig. 2), evidently due to the increased marsh area available there compared with 1937 when no summer residents occurred (Twomey 1942).

**Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*). Regarded by Hayward et al. (1976) as an abundant migrant. C. L. Hayward and H. H. Frost (Hayward et al. 1976) observed thousands at Pelican Lake 15 May 1970. D. Zalunardo (pers. comm.) considers it an uncommon spring migrant at PWA. M. Lange (pers. comm.), a former employee at ONWR,

did not see it there. I did not see the species in Uintah County, but M. Webb (Kingery 1981d) observed 400–500 birds at Duchesne, Duchesne County 9 May 1981 and Utah Field Ornithologists saw 50 in Myton, Duchesne County, 15 or 16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

### *Laridae*

All species of Laridae that I observed more than once in Uintah County were evidently more abundant in this study (Fig. 2) than they were in 1937 (Twomey 1942), probably due to the creation of Pelican Lake and associated ponds and Woods Bottom Pond at ONWR.

**Franklin's Gull** (*Larus pipixcan*). Apparently more common now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942) but less prevalent now than 1961–1970 (Hayward 1967, Hayward et al. 1976, Behle 1981). Behle (1981) noted that it is a common summer resident in northeastern Utah. Based on this study, it is an uncommon migrant in Uintah County (Fig. 2).

**Bonaparte's Gull** (*Larus philadelphia*). Several were seen with a flock of Franklin's Gulls at Pelican Lake 15 May and 3 June 1970 (Hayward et al. 1976). The carcass of a subadult was found on the north shore of Pelican Lake 27 May 1977 (Behle 1981). At Fort Duchesne, 14 were seen by R. Sorenson and E. Sorenson 2 May 1981 (Kingery 1981c). I observed one adult and 8 immatures at the pond 1 km west of Pelican Lake and several immatures flying over Pelican Lake (Figs. 1–2). Utah Field Ornithologists sighted 4 birds in the Pelican Lake area 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Ring-billed Gull** (*Larus delawarensis*). Considered by Behle and Perry (1975a) to be common winter visitants in northern Utah and to occur in the state 1 August–15 May. Behle (1981) noted that they probably do not nest in northeastern Utah. In Colorado the species is a migrant and nonbreeding resident (Bailey and Niedrach 1965).

Two or three were seen by Twomey (1942) along Green River throughout the summer of 1937, but they demonstrated no evidence of nesting (Twomey 1942). However, some ranchers owning property along Green River who were "careful bird observers" told Twomey (1942) "that during past years, a

pair or two of the gulls nested on the large sand bars of Green River, between Jensen and the mouth of Green River Gorge" (probably Split Mountain). During this study, a flock of Ring-billed Gulls occurred at Pelican Lake and Woods Bottom Pond in ONWR throughout most of the year (Figs. 1-2). In 1981, several appeared to be nesting on an islet near the east end of Pelican Lake close to Utah Highway 88 (Figs. 1-2). I observed immature birds in that area in August 1981.

**California Gull** (*Larus californicus*). Twomey (1942) reported seeing one on Green River below Jensen 10 May 1937, and A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) saw a flock of 50 at what is now SLWMA in mid-May 1935. Observed during 18-22 March, from 27 May or earlier that month to 4 June, and 22-27 July 1948, 1966, 1967, 1977, and unspecified years (Hayward 1967, Behle 1981). Flocks of gulls reside at Pelican Lake and at Woods Bottom Pond in ONWR, but I have observed no California Gulls in those flocks.

**Herring Gull** (*Larus argentatus*). Behle and others (Behle 1981) saw one at Pelican Lake 27 May 1977. I observed a large gull on Pelican Lake that I believe was a Herring Gull (Fig. 2).

**Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*). Utah Field Ornithologists reported three in the Pelican Lake area 15 May 1982 (Kingery 1982, Leppert 1982), but I have seen only Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) there.

**Black Tern** (*Chlidonias niger*). Hayward (1967) noted that it is a common summer resident at Pelican Lake in May, June, and July. It is apparently more prevalent now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942) but is uncommon. At ONWR, T. Tornow (pers. comm.) saw nests during 1979-1982, particularly at Leota Bottom in spring 1982 and M. Lange (pers. comm.) observed several nests in 1982.

## Columbiformes

### Columbidae

**Band-tailed Pigeon** (*Columba fasciata*). Observed on agricultural land south of La-Point (el. 1370 m) 19 May 1970 and in desert shrub habitat on Walker Hollow Road (el. 1830 m), which is south and southeast of Jensen, as close 13 km to that town, 30 April

1971 (Pederson and Nish 1975). D. Zalunardo (pers. comm.) sighted one in Vernal 23 October 1980 and M. Lange (pers. comm.) saw one during spring 1981.

## Cuculiformes

### Cuculidae

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*). I closely observed and heard one in the Green River floodplain about 500 m southwest of the Green River bridge at Ouray in 1981 (Figs. 1-2). Also in 1981 and 1982, it was seen at ONWR by M. Lange (pers. comm.). The 1981 sightings constitute the first records of the species in northeastern Utah. Personnel of the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources, collected a carcass from the Maeser area northwest of Vernal in 1982 (J. S. Cranney, pers. comm.).

## Strigiformes

### Tytonidae

**Common Barn-Owl** (*Tyto alba*). Only two sightings of live birds have been recorded in northeastern Utah (Twomey 1942). Only one of them definitely occurred in the desert region of Uintah County, an individual seen by D. Stewart near Jensen in 1936 (Twomey 1942). One carcass that is now a part of the museum collection of Dinosaur National Monument, Utah, was collected at Jensen 29 November 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.).

### Strigidae

**Western Screech-Owl** (*Otus kennicottii*). Regarded as a common permanent resident in Utah (Behle and Perry 1975a, Hayward et al. 1976) but as uncommon in northeastern Utah (Behle 1981, Behle and Perry 1975b). A. C. Lloyd collected a female and three offspring she was feeding in dense willows at the confluence of Ashley Creek and Green River sometime between 25 and 30 July 1935 (Twomey 1942). Hayward (1967) observed the species near Jensen 18 May 1958. A nest found by M. Horton along upper Ashley Creek (Behle 1981) probably occurred in montane habitat. Ranger Sneddon and R. G.



Beidleman (Beidleman, in litt.) observed a small owl presumed to be a Western Screech-Owl in a box elder tree at the headquarters of Dinosaur National Monument 19 November 1946. On 22 May 1981, approximately 750 m northwest of MFB, I was startled by a small owl, perhaps a Western Screech-Owl, which flew from a tree about 4 m behind me (Fig. 2).

**Great Horned Owl** (*Bubo virginianus*). Twomey (1942) did not observe it in Uintah County, apparently because it had been hunted extensively by "ranchers, farmers, and sportsmen." It is now common (Fig. 2).

**Northern Pygmy-Owl** (*Glaucidium gnoma*). Sighted in Dinosaur National Monument at Split Mountain Campground by J. Halfpenny 19 November 1982 and in cottonwood trees adjacent to a cave at the head of Red Rock Nature Trail, Split Mountain Campground, by D. Chure and L. Ferris (pers. comm.) 21 and 25 November 1982. One was also sighted at Dinosaur National Monument 26 December 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl** (*Aegolius acadicus*). Collected along a valley stream in Vernal 29 December 1957 (Hayward 1967). A nest containing three young was found by M. Horton 16 km east of Ouray in May 1967 (Behle and Perry 1975b, Behle 1981). H. G. Troester and M. Lange (pers. comm.) observed and photographed one individual at ONWR 3 February 1981.

## Caprimulgiformes

### Caprimulgidae

**Common Poorwill** (*Phalaenoptilus nuttalli*). Hayward (1967) stated that it is common in desert shrub and pinyon-juniper communities throughout the upper Colorado River basin but provided no sighting records. It is largely a montane species in north-eastern Utah (Behle 1981). There is only one published record in the desert region of Uintah County, a male collected by A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) 3 km south of Jensen 19 August 1935. One was sighted along the diked road in SLWMA about 800 m beyond the entrance sign by D. Chure and L. Ferris (pers. comm.) 6 September 1981; one was found dead near Pelican Lake 6 October 1982 by

M. Lange (pers. comm.); Utah Field Ornithologists heard one at Split Mountain Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

## Apodiformes

### Trochilidae

**Black-chinned Hummingbird** (*Archilochus alexandri*). There are only five published records of it in the desert region of Uintah County (Twomey 1942, Hayward 1967). It is more commonly seen now than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942), possibly due to more feeders around homes at the present time. In Dinosaur National Monument, one was observed at Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area by W. E. Welch 29 April 1965 and by W. G. Truesdell 12 June 1973 and at Prophecy in Stone, approximately 1 km southeast of Dinosaur Quarry Visitor Center, by N. Howk 22 June 1980 (D. Chure, in litt.). One male remained all summer at a feeder behind the house of D. Chure and L. Ferris along Utah Highway 149 (Road B, Fig. 1). By late July, the Black-chinned Hummingbird, as well as the other two species of hummingbirds in Uintah County, have begun leaving their montane nesting areas and appear in valleys, where they may remain until September (Fig. 2).

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus platycercus*). Much more prevalent in the desert region of Uintah County during migration than during its nesting season (Twomey 1942, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., Fig. 2). Hayward (1967) supposedly found it nesting in a small crevice of a cliff "near the junction of White and Green Rivers, Duchesne County, Utah (elevation 6500 ft.)" 22 June 1954, where a female bird was seen feeding young. However, the confluence of White and Green rivers is in Uintah County at an elevation of about 1430 m (4700 ft). I observed a male in a cottonwood grove along the White River approximately 800 m northwest of MFB 2 June 1981 that may have been a breeding summer resident (Fig. 2).

**Rufous Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus rufus*). From 20 July to 11 August 1934, A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) found at least three or four birds in each patch of fireweed (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*) that he examined. Lloyd



saw only two individuals in 1935 and Twomey saw none in 1937 (Twomey 1942). In this study, it was commonly seen at site 4 and 800 m south of Naples, where J. Metz reportedly saw it 13 and 16 May 1981 (Figs. 1–2). One male was seen at a feeder in Logan, Cache County, 4–6 May 1982 by K. L. Dixon, who stated that the only other spring record in Utah occurred in 1962 (Kingery 1982).

#### Coraciiformes

##### *Alcedinidae*

**Belted Kingfisher** (*Ceryle alcyon*). Twomey (1942) observed the species three times. One was seen along Green River at ONWR during 18–22 March 1966 (Behle 1981), at “Leland” (presumably eastern Leland Bench) 13 April 1901 (Tullsen 1908), Sheppard Bottom of ONWR 1 May 1982, and Woods Bottom of ONWR in August 1981 (D. Chure, pers. comm.). D. Chure (pers. comm.) collected the carcass of a male at the junction of Utah Highway 149 and Brush Creek (Road B, Fig. 1) 7 May 1982. Two were sighted in the Jensen area 26 December 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.). In an area including a part of western Uintah County, the species was seen 27 December 1956 and 29 December 1958 (Killpack 1957, 1959). I observed it approximately 700 m north of Ouray on the west side of Green River, near site 4, in flight near White River about 800 m northwest of MFB, and close to a stream about 1 km north of Pelican Lake (Figs. 1–2).

#### Piciformes

##### *Picidae*

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*). Considered by Behle (1981) to be a common permanent resident in northeastern Utah that breeds from lowland riparian floodplains to aspen-pine forests. D. Gale (Bent 1964c) noted that in Colorado, it nests only in quaking aspens, usually at an elevation of 2440–2745 m. It has not been seen in the desert region of Uintah County during its breeding season in June (Bent 1964c) except on or about the federal oil shale tracts U-a and U-b in June 1975 (Anonymous 1977). The

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is apparently less common now (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942). I observed it 200 m south of MFB (40°02'N, 109°27'W), about 1.7 km southwest of MFB (40°01'N, 109°28'W), and at ONWR (Figs. 1–2).

**Downy Woodpecker** (*Picoides pubescens*). Apparently less prevalent in the desert region of Uintah County now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942). No evidence was presented by Hayward (1967) to substantiate his claim that it is less commonly seen than the Hairy Woodpecker in valleys of the upper Colorado River basin during summer. The converse is true (Fig. 2). Hayward (1967) observed signs of nesting activity by the Downy Woodpecker on Green River floodplain near Ouray 17 May 1958. Nesting is apparently most common in June (Bent 1964b). My observations of the species in a cottonwood grove along the White River approximately 800 m northwest of MFB 2 and 23 June 1981 (Figs. 1–2) suggest that it may nest in White River lowlands.

**Hairy Woodpecker** (*Picoides villosus*). Since 1937 in the desert region of Uintah County, the only published record of it on a specific date regards a specimen collected at ONWR 31 July 1962 (Behle 1981). Despite reports (Hayward 1967, Hayward et al. 1976, Behle 1981) that the species nests in valley riparian sites, no specific sighting dates were given for lowland habitats during the Hairy Woodpecker's nesting period, which includes May and June (Bent 1964a). However, Beidleman (in litt.) observed a female in sagebrush at Split Mountain Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, 31 May 1957. One individual was seen at the headquarters of that monument by J. H. Lombard (Beidleman, in litt.) 1 September 1945. There was no evidence that the bird I saw along the White River 7 km southeast of Ouray 7 May 1982 (Figs. 1–2) was breeding. I also observed the species 350 m south of MFB and at ONWR (Fig. 2).

#### Passeriformes

##### *Tyrannidae*

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus borealis*). Not seen in the lowlands of northeastern Utah since 1937, when it occurred in “con-

siderable numbers" along the main river valleys of the Uinta Basin 15 May–10 June and during September (Twomey 1942).

**Western Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus sordidulus*). Hayward (1967) stated that in the upper Colorado River basin, it is the most common small flycatcher inhabiting floodplain woodlands, where it breeds. All sightings in the desert region of Uintah County have occurred in May, June, and August (Twomey 1942, Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Behle 1981, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt., Fig. 2) except an observation by the author on the Green River floodplain 500 m southwest of the Green River bridge at Ouray 1 September (Figs. 1–2). Those I saw 700–900 m northwest of MFB 27 May, 16 June, and 23 June 1981 (site 9, Figs. 1–2) may have been nesting. It is apparently less common now (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*). Apparently less common now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942). Since then, it has been collected at Brush Creek about 13 km northeast of Vernal 24 August 1949, ONWR 22 August 1962, and the C.C.C. Crossing of Hill Creek approximately 65 km south of Ouray (possibly in the desert region of Uintah County) 23 August 1962 (Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Behle 1981). I observed it about 800 m northwest of MFB, at SLWMA, Split Mountain Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, near the transition of desert scrub habitat with montane habitat, and south and east of Green River at ONWR (Figs. 1–2).

**Hammond's Flycatcher** (*Empidonax hammondi*). The only member of the species that has definitely been observed in the desert region of Uintah County was collected by Twomey (1942) approximately 3 km south of Jensen in a cottonwood floodplain of what is now SLWMA 9 August 1937. An *Empidonax* flycatcher that I observed 1 km northwest of MFB on 27 May 1981 had a dark breast and throat except for a narrow whitish band along their center. Its general color was slaty. The bird was observed for about 10 minutes and did not make a sound. Hammond's Flycatcher is comparatively silent (Bent 1963d). However, its throat was not obviously darker than its breast and its mandible was yellowish brown like that of the Dusky Flycatcher. The mandible of Hammond's Flycatcher is usually blackish brown (Bent 1963d).

**Dusky Flycatcher** (*Empidonax oberholseri*). Behle (1981) indicated that it is a common migrant in the willows and cottonwoods of lowlands in northeastern Utah but provided only two records in valley habitats besides Twomey's (1942) observations: the collection of a specimen in the Uncompahgre Ute Indian Reservation by W. Granger 17 May 1895 and a sighting along White River at the mouth of Asphalt Wash 24 May 1975 (Behle 1981). In 1937, it was uncommon (Twomey 1942) and I found it to be rare (Fig. 2). Approximately 900 m northwest of MFB, I observed what I believed to be Dusky Flycatchers 12 and 27 May 1981. Their throats were not dark; the center of their bellies was yellow. The lower mandible of one bird was carefully observed with binoculars and was discovered not to be pied. The birds uttered a two-syllabled note resembling that described for the species (Bent 1963e).

**Gray Flycatcher** (*Empidonax wrightii*). Hayward et al. (1976) affirmed that it was widespread and the most common of the *Empidonax* flycatchers in Utah. Hayward (1967) attested that it is "by far the most common summer resident of any of the small flycatchers" in the upper Colorado River basin, although no specimen has been collected in the desert region of northeastern Utah (Behle 1981). Twomey (1942) observed only two members of the species in the Uinta Basin but none in its desert region. R. G. Beidleman (in litt.) saw the Gray Flycatcher 10 August and earlier in the same summer at Split Mountain Campground, Dinosaur National Monument. C. M. White (pers. comm.) collected it in desert scrub habitat in Utah. In this study, line transects were walked in that habitat in all seasons from 1977 to 1981. No Gray Flycatcher was seen there. Perhaps, because Uintah County is so arid, the species summers there only in the upper desert zone near juniper woodlands.

I observed two Gray Flycatchers in riparian habitat 200–400 m south of MFB for approximately four hours 7 September 1977 and 1.5 hours on 8 September 1977. The birds did not have an eye ring, but the presence of the latter is variably distinct among *Empidonax* flycatchers depending on the species and its molting stage. (Compare the conspicuousness of the eye rings of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Western Flycatcher, and

Willow Flycatcher in the work of Terres [1980:366–367]). The Gray Flycatcher is less common in the Uinta Basin than in Utah generally, based on both Twomey's (1942) work and mine (Fig. 2).

**Western Flycatcher** (*Empidonax difficilis*). Regarded by Behle and Perry (1975a) and Behle (1981) as a common summer resident in the canyons and mountains of Utah and northeastern Utah, respectively. However, Hayward et al. (1976) considered it to be a sparse breeder in Utah mountains. The only member of the species seen by Twomey (1942) in what was possibly the desert region of Uintah County was collected 16 km west of Vernal 28 May 1937. I observed a Western Flycatcher in cottonwoods 900 m northwest of MFB (Fig. 2).

**Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*). One reported in riparian habitat on or about the federal oil shale tracts U-a and U-b in October 1976 (Anonymous 1977). On 1 May 1981, J. Metz and I observed an apparent hybrid between an Eastern Phoebe and a Say's Phoebe, although its characteristics fitted those of the former much more closely. It was observed in badlands habitat about 800 m southwest of MFB (40°02'N, 109°28'W) along an avian transect. The bird repeatedly alighted on and took flight from a 2.4-m marker that had been placed on the center line of the transect. We watched it for about 15 minutes from a distance as near as 15 m and then continued to walk the line transect to its termination. Thereafter, we began walking the center line of the transect in the opposite direction and again encountered the bird at the site where we had initially spotted it. We watched it for an additional 5 minutes. The flycatcher had a dark head and bill and a white throat. It lacked wingbars and bobbed its tail up and down. However, it possessed a faint washing of cinnamon on the belly. I refer to the bird as an Eastern Phoebe in Fig. 2 because its traits matched those of that species except for the slight rusty tint on its venter.

**Say's Phoebe** (*Sayornis saya*). Hayward (1967) stated that it prefers to occupy open desert sites. Bent (1963c) affirmed that Say's Phoebe is a bird of open country, sagebrush plains, badlands, dry, barren foothills, and the margins of deserts, where it forages over low vegetation, and added that it is not fond of

water courses or woods. I walked avian transects in desert habitat, including badlands, over all seasons during four years and did not see the species there. I saw it only in or about riparian habitat at PWA, MFB, about 1 km southwest of MFB, along White River between the West Fork of Saddle Tree Draw and MFB (Route 15), and along Green River approximately 250 m below the Green River bridge at Dinosaur National Monument (Figs. 1–2). Say's Phoebe is less common (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**Vermilion Flycatcher** (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*). At the headquarters of ONWR, it was reported by M. Lange, R. Sjostrom, and H. G. Troester 4 October 1982 and by M. Lange 7 November 1982 (M. Lange and H. G. Troester pers. comm.). Those sightings are among the first in northern Utah.

**Ash-throated Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus cinerascens*). In the desert region of Uintah County, it is more prevalent during migration than summer. Nesting incidence apparently peaks in late June (Bent 1963b), when I saw it (23 June) in cottonwoods along White River 1 km northwest of MFB (Fig. 2).

**Western Kingbird** (*Tyrannus verticalis*). Twomey (1942) stated that it was "among the most characteristic birds" of the Green River floodplains in 1937. Although the species has extended its range during the last century (Bent 1963a), it is presently less abundant in Uintah County (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942), possibly due to the loss of suitable habitat on its wintering grounds in western Central America (Bent 1963a). At "Leland" (presumably eastern Leland Bench), Tullsen (1908) saw the species 31 March as well as 7–9 April 1901, a month earlier than I did (Fig. 2).

**Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*). Apparently less common in northeastern Utah (Twomey 1942, Behle 1981, Fig. 2) than in northern Utah in general (Behle and Perry 1975a). I observed it only in May and August (Fig. 2), but it has also been seen in June and July (Twomey 1942, Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Behle 1981).

#### *Alaudidae*

**Horned Lark** (*Eromphila alpestris*). Twomey (1942) believed that it arrived in the



Uinta Basin in April during snowmelt. However, it is a permanent resident there (Fig. 2) and is at least as abundant now (Fig. 2) as it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942).

### *Hirundinidae*

**Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*). Twomey (1942) observed 30 about bird houses in Vernal during 1937. Argante (D. Chure, in litt.) saw it at Green River Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, 1 June 1973.

**Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*). Considered by Behle and Perry (1975a) to be a common summer resident in Utah, but Twomey (1942) did not observe it. W. G. Truesdell sighted 15–20 at Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area 24 April 1973, and Argante saw the species at Green River Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, 1 June 1973 (D. Chure, in litt.). C. Vigos, a consultant to Tosco Corporation, saw it in the desert region of Uintah County (Fig. 2). I observed Tree Swallows near Green River about 1 km south of Dinosaur Quarry Visitor Center, Dinosaur National Monument, and feeding over a marsh at ONWR (Figs. 1–2).

**Violet-green Swallow** (*Tachycineta thalassina*). In the desert region of Uintah County, it is evidently less plentiful now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942). It is most prevalent at montane canyon cliffs. At Dinosaur National Monument, it was sighted at least eight times from 15 May to August in 1942, 1956, 1957, 1973, and 1982 (Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). A specimen was collected about 6.5 km north of Green River 22 June 1947 (Behle 1981).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*). Twomey (1942) spotted individual Northern Rough-winged Swallows in congregating flocks of Bank Swallows in August and September 1937. Twice I observed a small flock of Northern Rough-winged Swallows at SLWMA (Fig. 2). Utah Field Ornithologists saw one bird in a Vernal City park 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982). It is less common now than in 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparis*). Apparently less common now (Fig. 2) in the desert region of Uintah County than in 1937 (Twomey 1942). Behle and colleagues (Behle 1981) saw it only twice in northeastern Utah

and only once in the desert region of Uintah County—at Pelican Lake 27 May 1977 (Behle 1981). The American Museum of Natural History contains a specimen collected by W. Granger on the Uncompahgre Ute Indian Reservation 31 May 1895 (Behle 1981). I observed it near Green River 1 km south of Dinosaur Quarry Visitor Center, Dinosaur National Monument (Fig. 2). Utah Field Ornithologists observed 200 at ONWR and 12 at Pelican Lake 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

### *Corvidae*

**American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). Twomey (1942) noted that in 1937 it was numerous during migration along the Green River valley. He found six nests at what is now SLWMA. Hayward (1967) stated that in the Green River Basin Province, the American Crow occurs regularly in summer, where it nests in trees and willow thickets along streams. It occurs sparingly in western counties of Colorado (Bailey and Niedrach 1965). I saw it only in the winter of 1977–1978 (Fig. 2) on Road F approximately 10 km east of Ouray (Fig. 1). On Audubon Christmas counts in an area including part of western Uintah County, M. L. Killpack and associates observed 4 on 27 December 1951 (Killpack et al. 1952), 26 on 23 December 1952 (Crittenden et al. 1953), 3 on 31 December 1953 (Killpack et al. 1954), 2 on 29 December 1954 (Crittenden et al. 1955), 11 on 27 December 1956 (Killpack 1957), 38 on 31 December 1957 (Killpack 1958), and 368 on 29 December 1958 (Killpack 1959). However, most of those observations may have occurred in eastern Duchesné County, where I have frequently seen the species. At a nesting site about 11 km south of Whiterocks in what was probably the desert region of western Uintah County, M. L. Killpack (Richards and White 1963) banded 3 nestlings on 20 May 1953.

**Common Raven** (*Corvus sinuatus*). Behle (1981) provided no sighting or collection records of his own. In the desert region of Uintah County, it was seen by W. Granger in 1895 (Behle 1981), Twomey in 1937 (Twomey 1942), and Killpack and two associates in an area including part of western Uintah County 29 December 1955 (Killpack et

al. 1956). D. B. Beard (Beidleman, in litt.) saw a few around the headquarters of Dinosaur National Monument at "various times," including 12 August 1942. Utah Field Ornithologists sighted five birds at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, and one bird at SLWMA 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982). I observed it along Road F (Fig. 1) 5–15 km east of Ouray in desert scrub habitat near agricultural land 29 September 1978 and during the winter of 1977–1978 (Fig. 2). The Common Raven, like the American Crow, is less common in Uintah County (Fig. 2) than elsewhere in Utah (Behle and Perry 1975a, Hayward et al. 1976). I frequently observe both species in Duchesne County along U.S. Highway 40. Perhaps they are more common in Duchesne County because of its closer proximity to the relatively mesic valleys of central Utah.

#### *Paridae*

**Black-capped Chickadee** (*Parus atricapillus*). Common both in 1937 (Twomey 1942) and now (Fig. 2). At least nine sightings by others were made in the desert region of Uintah County from 19–22 March and 15 May to 26 August in 1949, 1950, 1966, 1967, 1974, 1981, and 1982 (Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, D. Chure, in litt.). I observed it during every month except January but saw it 31 December and 2 February and consider it a permanent resident (Fig. 2).

**Mountain Chickadee** (*Parus gambeli*). Few sightings have been made of it in the desert region of Uintah County. In an area including western Uintah County, six were seen 23 December 1952 (Crittenden et al. 1953). A specimen collected at the C.C.C. Crossing of Hill Creek approximately 65 km south of Ouray 23 August 1961 (Behle 1981) may have occurred in the desert region of Uintah County. Hayward (1967) stated that it was "rather common" in cottonwood groves along White River near Bonanza in late September 1966. It was observed near Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument by K. Truesdell 15 March 1974 and by W. G. Truesdell 29–30 March 1974 (D. Chure, in litt.). I observed one about 300 m southeast of the Green River bridge at Ouray (Figs. 1–2).

#### *Sittidae*

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*). Observed at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982), in cottonwoods near Ouray 17 May 1958 (Hayward 1967), in cottonwood groves along White River 800 m northwest of MFB 21 May 1982 and 300 m south of MFB 9 September 1981 (site 9, Figs. 1–2), and near the confluence of Ashley Creek and Green River 30 September 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*). One was seen in an area including western Uintah County 31 December 1953 (Killpack et al. 1954). Another was collected from the Green River floodplain near Ouray 17 May 1958 and from White River south of Bonanza 19 September 1966 (Hayward 1967). Hayward (1967) noted that the species was common in cottonwood groves south of Bonanza in May 1958, when individuals appeared to be preparing to nest. C. Vigos, a consultant to Tosco Corporation, reported that she observed it 23 October 1976 (Fig. 2).

#### *Troglodytidae*

**Canyon Wren** (*Salpinctes mexicanus*). Since 1937 (Twomey 1942) all sightings or collections of it except one (Behle 1981) have been made in Dinosaur National Monument. It was seen there by Argante 1 June 1973 (D. Chure, in litt.), B. Ingber 9 July 1980 (D. Chure, in litt.), D. B. Beard in July and August (including 12 August) and 14 September 1942 (Beidleman, in litt.) and was heard there by J. H. Lombard 29 August 1945 (Beidleman, in litt.). At Split Mountain Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, it was heard 26 August 1981 (Fig. 2) and seen 15 or 16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982). Also at Dinosaur National Monument, I heard one on a rock face approximately 50 m high near a picnic area about 300 m below the Green River bridge 11 August 1981 (Fig. 2), and Utah Field Ornithologists saw seven at Josie Morris Cabin 15 or 16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Bewick's Wren** (*Thryomanes bewickii*). Observed at SLWMA and along Utah Highway 149 (Road B, Fig. 1) between Jensen and Dinosaur National Monument (Behle and Perry 1975a). Other sightings and collections of it

may have occurred in juniper-pinyon habitat (Hayward 1967, Killpack and Hayward 1958), although the observation of two birds at Cub Creek near Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, 15 May 1982 probably did not (Leppert 1982, D. Chure, pers. comm.).

**Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*). More common (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942) and most prevalent at site 3 (Fig. 1).

### *Muscicapidae*

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*). One sighted in riparian habitat near ONWR 1 May 1982 by M. Lange, D. Chure, L. Ferris, and N. Howk (M. Lange, pers. comm.).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*). Considered by Behle (1981) to be a common permanent resident in northeastern Utah but the only sighting records in valleys that he provided were those of Twomey (1942). It is less common now (Fig. 2) than in 1937, when Twomey (1942) saw flocks of 10–30 during migration. In the desert region of Uintah County, more than 11 other sightings were made 18 April–16 May and 7 October–10 November in 1945, 1951, 1956, 1957, 1975, 1976, and 1982 (Anonymous 1977, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Polioptila caerulea*). A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) collected one approximately 3 km south of Jensen 20 May 1935. The species, although uncommon, is more prevalent now (Fig. 2). Not many more than eight sightings were made 26 April–30 May and 25 July in 1956, 1957, 1965, 1974, 1975, and 1982 (Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). In 1949 Weston (1964) reported that “the Uinta Valley near Vernal” was at the northern boundary of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher’s range. Its range shifted northward between 1937 and 1967. In 1967 it was reportedly a common summer resident in the Uinta Mountain Province (Hayward 1967).

**Black-tailed Gnatcatcher** (*Polioptila melanura*). One was reported by ornithologists with the White River Shale Project team in sagebrush-greasewood, riparian, and juniper habitats during April and August 1975

(Anonymous 1977). W. G. Truesdell (D. Chure, in litt.) reported sighting one in juniper habitat near Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, 14 May 1974.

**Mountain Bluebird** (*Sialia currucoides*). Considered to be a common summer resident in Utah (Behle and Perry 1975), northeastern Utah (Behle 1981), and the oil shale region of Uintah County (Behle and Perry 1975b). It is a common permanent resident in the desert region of Uintah County (Fig. 2). Winter sightings include observations of 2–13 in an area including western Uintah County during late December 1951, 1952, and 1954–1956 (Crittenden et al. 1953, 1955, Killpack 1957, Killpack et al. 1952, 1956) and observations of one on Road N about 1 km north of Fort Duchesne 20 January 1982, near MFB 8 March 1979, and at site 8 on 14 March 1980 (Figs. 1–2).

The Mountain Bluebird is less common in lowlands than formerly due to disturbances by Starlings and House Sparrows (Hayward 1967, Hayward et al. 1976). During its presumed nesting season, I observed the species four times. In May 1982, J. M. Merino and J. Morehouse, associates of the author, found a nest south of White River near MFB (site 9, Figs. 1–2).

**Townsend’s Solitaire** (*Myadestes townsendi*). Reported to be common in Utah (Behle and Perry 1975a) and northeastern Utah (Behle 1981) but is uncommon in the desert region of Uintah County (Twomey 1942, Fig. 2). In an area including western Uintah County, three individuals were observed 27 December in 1951 (Killpack et al. 1952) and 1956 (Killpack 1957). It was seen along White River at the mouth of Atchee Creek 25 May 1975 (Behle 1981) and collected about 5 km south of Bonanza 21 September 1966 (Hayward 1967). At Dinosaur National Monument, one was observed at Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area 13 February 1964 and at Cub Creek near Josie Morris Cabin 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982, D. Chure, in litt.). C. Vigos observed it 29 October 1976 (Fig. 2). I observed one along White River in cottonwood groves both 400 m south and 800 m northwest of MFB and also at site 4 (Figs. 1–2).

**Veery** (*Catharus fuscescens*). One in the Royal Ontario Museum was collected at Jensen in July 1935 (Hayward et al. 1976). I saw



one bird in a cottonwood grove approximately 300 m south of MFB 10 May 1978 (Fig. 2).

**Swainson's Thrush** (*Catharus ustulatus*). Regarded by Behle (1981) as a common summer resident showing altitudinal migration in northeastern Utah. Sightings of it in the desert region of Uintah County are few. A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) collected one at what is now SLWMA 29 May 1935. At Dinosaur National Monument W. G. Truesdell (D. Chure, in litt.) sighted one at Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area 5 May 1973, and Utah Field Ornithologists saw one in Hog Canyon near Josie Morris Cabin (possibly in the desert region of Uintah County) 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982, D. Chure, pers. comm.). Twice, I observed one along White River 800–900 m northwest of MFB (Figs. 1–2).

**Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*). Evidently not as common (Fig. 2) as in 1937 (Twomey 1942). Specimens were collected 34 km north of Green River 24 May 1947 (Behle 1981) and along White River approximately 5 km south of Bonanza 21 September 1966 (Hayward 1967). The species was observed at the confluence of White River and Atchee Creek 25 May 1975 (Behle 1981) and at Cub Creek, Dinosaur National Monument, by N. Hawk and B. Ingber 14 August 1981 (D. Chure, in litt.). I saw one in a cottonwood grove near White River about 800 m northwest of MFB (Figs. 1–2).

#### Mimidae

**Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*). Twomey (1942) reported that it was "numerous during the spring migration" in 1937 and that four pairs nested at the Ashley Creek marshes at what is now SLWMA. A. C. Lloyd (Twomey 1942) did not see it at what is now SLWMA in 1934 but indicated that it was common there in 1935. In the vicinity of the Ashley Creek marshes, a juvenile was collected in 1935 and seven adults in 1937 (Twomey 1942). Three were collected at two other sites: approximately 5 km south of Vernal 9 July 1949 and at Merkle Park in montane-riparian habitat 16 km north of Vernal 21 June 1949 (Behle and Ghiselin 1958). D. Chure and L. Ferris (pers. comm.) saw one 800 m within SLWMA 9 August 1981. I did not observe the species.

**Northern Mockingbird** (*Mimus polyglottus*). Sightings were made of one to four on several occasions 1927–1937 (Twomey 1942) and the species 9 June 1953 and 16 June 1954 (Killpack and Hayward 1958). I observed it in desert habitat near site 10 (Figs. 1–2). T. Tornow and M. Lange (pers. comm.) saw it at ONWR from spring to early summer in 1979–1982 and assumed that it nested there during those years. Young were seen around residences at ONWR in 1977 (T. Tornow pers. comm.).

**Bendire's Thrasher** (*Toxostoma bendirei*). A pair of birds feeding one of its young in proximity to Sage Thrashers was observed and photographed by A. R. Johnson and B. H. Green at Coyote Wash 17 km northeast of Bonanza 30 (or 31) May–4 June 1980 (Kingery 1980b, White et al. 1983). E. Sorenson and R. Sorenson (Kingery 1981d) saw two at Randlett 7 July 1981.

#### Motacillidae

**Water Pipit** (*Anthus spinoletta*). Seen by Twomey (1942) on mud flats of Ashley Creek and Green River at what is now SLWMA during 1–26 May and 20–29 September 1937. In an area including part of western Uintah County, M. L. Killpack and associates observed 27 on 29 December 1955 (Killpack et al. 1956), 2 on 27 December 1956 (Killpack 1957), and one on 29 December 1958 (Killpack 1959). J. Metz observed it at ONWR 2 April 1981 and C. Vigos reportedly saw it 29 April, 13 May, 23 October, and 5–6 November 1976 (Fig. 2).

#### Bombycillidae

**Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*). Behle (1981) indicated that in northeastern Utah it is generally a common but erratic winter visitant. In an area including western Uintah County, 61 were observed 27 December 1956 (Killpack 1957) and 780 were seen 29 December 1958 (Killpack 1959). At site 4 (Fig. 1), I observed a flock in 1979 and 1980 (Fig. 2).

#### Laniidae

**Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*). Seen 18 March 1966 and 22 March 1967 (Behle

1981) and 31 December 1981 and 12 January 1982 (Fig. 2). In an area including part of western Uintah County, it was observed 27 December 1956 (four, Killpack 1957), 29 December 1958 (two, Killpack 1959), and 31 December 1957 (four, Killpack 1958).

**Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*). Least common during winter. In an area including part of western Uintah County, it was seen during late December 1951–1956 (Crittenden et al. 1953, 1955, Killpack 1957, Killpack et al. 1952, 1954, 1956). I saw this common permanent resident during midwinter 28 January, as well as in other periods (Fig. 2).

### Vireonidae

**Gray Vireo** (*Vireo vicinior*). Reported in Dinosaur National Monument at Josie Morris Cabin by J. C. Sinclear 18 May 1979 and along Cub Creek between the petroglyph site and Josie Morris Cabin by D. Chure and L. Ferris 5 July 1981 (D. Chure, in litt.).

**Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*). Reported to be a common summer resident in the willows and cottonwoods of riparian floodplains as well as in mountains (Hayward 1967, Behle 1981). In the desert region of Uintah County it is an uncommon migrant (Twomey 1942, Fig. 2). One was collected along White River 8 km east of Bonanza 26 May 1974 and at ONWR 22 August 1962 (Behle 1981). In trees about Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area, Beidleman (in litt.) observed a pair for several days prior to and on 30 April 1956, and N. Howk sighted it 25 August and 11 September (with B. Ingber) 1981 and 22 May 1982 (D. Chure, in litt.). Utah Field Ornithologists saw 3 at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument (possibly in the desert region of Uintah County), 15 May 1982. I observed 10 along White River 900 m northwest of MFB and the species 800 m northwest of MFB (site 9, Figs. 1–2).

**Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*). I observed it in a tamarix bush near White River approximately 1.3 km southwest of MFB (40°01'N, 109°28'W) 25 September 1979 and in a cottonwood tree 450 m south of MFB (40°02'N, 109°27'W) 27 September 1979 (site 9, Figs. 1–2). It was reported at Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, 15 September 1964 (Scott 1965), in 1966 (Scott 1969), and

22 September 1968 (Scott 1969). The first record of it in Nevada occurred 6 May 1981 when C. Lawson (Kingery 1981c) saw one at a bird bath in Las Vegas.

**Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*). Twomey (1942) heard it almost every day 29 May–9 June 1937 and observed it 20–28 September 1937 apparently at what is now SLWMA. He collected one about 6.5 km south of Jensen (Twomey 1942). Since 1937 the only report of the species in the desert region of Uintah County was on the federal oil shale tracts U-a and U-b in riparian habitat in June 1975 (Anonymous 1977). B. Webb (Kingery 1979b) heard and possibly observed one bird at Dinosaur National Monument 31 May 1979, but it probably occurred in Colorado.

### Emberizidae

**Tennessee Warbler** (*Vermivora peregrina*). One was reported at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, by D. Chure, L. Ferris, M. Leppert, and J. Burns 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982, D. Chure, pers. comm.).

**Orange-crowned Warbler** (*Vermivora celata*). At what is now SLWMA, Twomey (1942) saw four 10 May 1937 and a few 25 September 1937. One was collected 29 September 1937 from a small flock of five occurring in dense willows and cottonwoods on the Ashley Creek floodplain immediately south of the Ashley Creek marshes (Twomey 1942). In Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area L. M. King (D. Chure, in litt.) sighted it in shrubs 30 April 1975. Utah Field Ornithologists saw four at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982). I observed one both 250 and 500 m south of MFB and also at ONWR (Figs. 1–2).

**Virginia's Warbler** (*Vermivora virginiae*). Apparently less common (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942). In Dinosaur National Monument, N. Howk (D. Chure, pers. comm.) sighted two along Cub Creek 14 August 1981, and J. C. Sinclear (D. Chure, in litt.) observed the species at a stream bed along Red Rock Nature Trail 16 May 1979 and in deciduous trees at Josie Morris Cabin 18 May 1979. At the latter site, Utah Field Ornithologists saw four 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982). D. Chure and L. Ferris (pers. comm.) observed it in thickets along the road in SLWMA 6 August 1981. I saw it about

400 m south of MFB in tamarix bushes, 600 m northwest of MFB in cottonwoods, and along Brush Creek at site 1 (Figs. 1–2).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** (*Dendroica coronata*). Although a common migrant in the desert region of Uintah County, it is less abundant now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942). Behle (1981) indicated that it is a migrant in desert scrub as well as lowland riparian and pinyon-juniper habitats, but I saw only one in desert scrub habitat during five years. Utah Field Ornithologists reportedly saw a member of the Myrtle subspecies at SLWMA 15 or 16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Townsend's Warbler** (*Dendroica townsendi*). I observed one in the upper canopy of a cottonwood tree near White River about 300 m south of MFB 11 September 1981 (site 9, Figs. 1–2). D. Chure, J. Burns, and M. Leppert sighted one at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982, D. Chure, pers. comm.).

**American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*). Twomey (1942) observed a pair 20 September 1937 in dense willows at what is now SLWMA, where a specimen was collected by A. C. Lloyd 20 August 1935. W. G. Truesdell (D. Chure, in litt.) observed it at Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area, Dinosaur National Monument, 19 September 1973. One was collected at the confluence of Atchee Creek and White River 25 May 1975 (Behle 1981) and observed in spring 1981 at ONWR (M. Lange, pers. comm.).

**MacGillivray's Warbler** (*Oporornis tolmiei*). Behle (1981) indicated that in northeastern Utah it is a common summer resident that may occur anywhere in the lowlands, including desert scrub vegetation, during migration. One was collected about 5 km south of Vernal 27 August 1949 (Behle and Ghiselin 1958). The migrant population of the species in the desert region of Uintah County has decreased considerably since 1937 (Twomey 1942, Fig. 2). In Dinosaur National Monument a male was seen in bushes behind the Dinosaur Quarry Apartments by J. Freilich 14 September 1978 and two were observed in box elder trees and underbrush at Cub Creek near Josie Morris Cabin by N. Howk 29 August 1981 (D. Chure, in litt.). I observed one in shrubbery along the diked road at SLWMA and in a cottonwood grove approximately 200 m south of MFB (Figs. 1–2).

**Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*). Apparently less common now (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**Wilson's Warbler** (*Wilsonia pusilla*). Evidently less common now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942) in the desert region of Uintah County but, both in the 1930s (1934–1935 compared with 1937) and in recent years (1977–1980 compared with 1981), its abundance during migration has varied markedly among years (Twomey 1942, Fig. 2). In the desert region of Dinosaur National Monument, Wilson's Warbler was observed on 11 different days 15 May–7 June and 1 September–9 October in 1950, 1973, 1981, and 1982 (Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). Other sightings in the desert region of Uintah County were also made in May, June, September, and October in 1948 and 1974–1976 (Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Hayward 1967, Anonymous 1977, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982).

**Yellow-breasted Chat** (*Icteria virens*). In the desert region of Uintah County more than 16 sightings of it were made 15 May–24 August in 1949, 1966, 1973–1976, 1981, and 1982 (Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Anonymous 1977, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, D. Chure, in litt.), but it seems to be less common now (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942). It is more prevalent at Hill and Willow Creeks than at White and Green Rivers. Along White River it occurred only where the river bordered abruptly with thickets.

**Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*). Behle (1981) noted that in northeastern Utah it occurs widely in lowland woods during migration. According to both Twomey's (1942) study and mine (Fig. 2), it is an uncommon migrant in the desert region of Uintah County. More than 10 other sightings of the Western Tanager were made there from 15 May or earlier that month to 31 May and during August, including 24 August 1895, 1957, 1975, 1976, 1979, and 1982 (Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). Hayward (1967) remarked that spring migrants, usually in pairs, were seen in streamside woods in the Uinta Basin 2 June and 22 July, suggesting that perhaps some members nest in lowlands there. In Vernal, I saw a male 5 June 1982; near White River 700–850 m northwest of MFB, I observed several 2 June and one female 16 June 1981



(Figs. 1–2). However, the Western Tanager was not seen northwest of MFB 23 June and was not observed in any part of the desert region of Uintah County in July. Twomey (1942) observed fall migrants in scattered locations during the first two weeks of September 1937, but the latest that I saw the species was 11 August (Fig. 2).

**Black-headed Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*). Reported to be rather common (Hayward 1967) or common (Behle 1981) in lowland riparian woodlands, mountains, and ornamental trees in parks or around homes. I never saw it in my yard. There has been a marked decline in its incidence in the desert region of Uintah County since 1937 (Twomey 1942, Fig. 2), perhaps due to the reduction of its wintering habitat in Mexico (Austin 1968), where the human population is burgeoning. I observed a female at ONWR west of Woods Bottom Pond and on the Green River floodplain 600 m southwest of the Green River bridge at Ouray (Fig. 2). At least 10 sightings were made in the desert region of Uintah County 15 May–4 June or later that month and from 9 August or later that month to 6 September 1950, 1957, 1974, 1975, 1977, and 1980–1982 (Anonymous 1977, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.).

**Blue Grosbeak** (*Guiraca caerulea*). Now well distributed in the low valleys of northern Utah due to the recent northward extension of its range (Hayward et al. 1976). Twomey (1942) did not see it in 1937. I observed it at the confluence of Bitter Creek and White River, along White River between the West Fork of Saddle Tree Draw and MFB (Route 15), at sites 9 and 10, along Road K, at SLWMA, ONWR, and the north end of Split Mountain Campground, Dinosaur National Monument (Figs. 1–2). More than 12 other sightings were made 5 June–12 September 1950, 1951, 1967, 1973–1976, 1980, and 1981 (Behle and Selander 1952, Behle 1981, D. Chure, in litt., D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.).

**Lazuli Bunting** (*Passerina amoena*). Hayward et al. (1976) noted that it occurs from early May to early September in Utah, and Behle and Perry (1975a) indicated that it exists there 17 April–15 September. I observed it in riparian habitat of Uintah County 30 April–26 September (Fig. 2).

**Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*). An adult male bird atop a box elder tree at Cub Creek in Dinosaur National Monument was observed by J. C. Oliphant (a federal bird bander) and M. Oliphant 7 July 1976 (D. Chure, in litt.). A male calling from a branch of a cottonwood tree about 9 m above the ground along Green River approximately 7 km southwest of Ouray was observed by S. Madsen (pers. comm.) for about 10 minutes 27 May 1980.

**Green-tailed Towhee** (*Pipilo chlorurus*). Except for Twomey's (1942) observations, only one published record of it in the desert region of northeastern Utah had been made (Behle 1981). It is evidently less common now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942). Since 1937 in the desert region of Uintah County, more than 11 sightings were made from April to 6 June and on 14 August and another day or days that month in 1943, 1945, 1951, 1975, 1976, 1981, and 1982 (Anonymous 1977, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). I observed it at site 9 and on the Green River floodplain 100–700 m southwest of the Green River bridge at Ouray (Fig. 1).

**Rufous-sided Towhee** (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*). Twomey (1942) did not see it between May and mid-September in 1937, but I observed it many times during its nesting season (Fig. 2). More than 26 other sightings were made in the desert region of Uintah County 18 March–5 September in 1895, 1942, 1947, 1950, 1951, 1956, 1957, 1965–1967, 1973–1975, 1978, and 1982 (Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.).

**American Tree Sparrow** (*Spizella arborea*). Apparently less common now (Fig. 2) than in the early and mid-1950s when M. L. Killpack and associates on Audubon Christmas counts in an area including part of western Uintah County saw 100 birds in 1951 (Killpack et al. 1952), 211 in 1952 (Crittenden et al. 1953), 81 in 1953 (Killpack et al. 1954), 459 in 1954 (Crittenden et al. 1955), 73 in 1955 (Killpack et al. 1956), and 178 in 1956 (Killpack 1957). They observed only 6 in 1957 (Killpack 1958) and 3 in 1958 (Killpack 1959). On an Audubon bird count in the Jensen area 26 December 1982, 10 were seen (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.).

**Chipping Sparrow** (*Spizella passerina*). Evidently not as common in the desert region of Uintah County (Fig. 2) as in 1937, when Twomey (1942) saw flocks comprising as many as 200 birds. At least 9 sightings were made there by other observers 15 May–23 June and 5 August–30 September in 1949, 1957, 1973, 1974, and 1982 (Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). I sighted the species at site 9 and at SLWMA (Fig. 2).

**Brewer's Sparrow** (*Spizella breweri*). In this study, it was observed only as late as 19 September (Fig. 2). Twomey (1942) observed it until 30 September, when his investigation ended.

**Vesper Sparrow** (*Poocetes gramineus*). Hayward et al. (1976) stated that it is a common species in Utah that nests in sagebrush habitat, particularly in high valleys, where it exists in the same habitat as the equally common Brewer's Sparrow. Hayward (1967) remarked that it breeds throughout the upper Colorado River basin, where it prefers to nest in desert shrubs of low to medium height. Behle (1981) indicated that in northeastern Utah, it breeds from elevations 1980–3200 m. Twomey (1942) stated that it was the "most uniformly distributed bird" in the Uinta Basin in 1937. Fledglings barely able to fly were observed 24 km southwest of Vernal 12 June 1937 (Twomey 1942).

Most of my observations of the species were made in April. Spring sightings not made then occurred at site 11 30 March 1978, site 12 14 May 1980, and site 14 13 and 14 June 1979 (Figs. 1–2). At site 14, it was not seen after 14 June or before 13 June and did not nest there. I did not see it between 14 June and 14 September (Fig. 2). One was collected 16 km south of Ouray 27 July 1967, however (Behle 1981). On the Roan Plateau of western Colorado between 2440 and 3050 m, it was the most common species in snowberry-sagebrush habitat (Cook 1981). Brewer's Sparrow was sparse there (Cook 1981). Within the arid region of northeastern Utah and northwestern Colorado during summer, Brewer's Sparrows frequent deserts and Vesper Sparrows prefer mountains. In the desert region of Uintah County, the species is less common now (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937, when it nested there (Twomey 1942).

**Black-throated Sparrow** (*Amphispiza bilineata*). Hayward (1967) noted that in the upper Colorado River valley it occurred 2 May–mid-August in areas where shadscale and low rabbitbrush predominate. It was reported at the federal oil shale tracts U-a and U-b in shadscale, juniper, and riparian habitats from April to August of 1975 and 1976 (Anonymous 1977). At T10S, R25E, Sec. 19, Strong (Olsen 1973) saw two in desert scrub habitat sometime between 24 May and 26 June 1973. At Dinosaur National Monument, it was sighted at Green River Campground by both Argente 1 June 1973 and N. Stephan 7 June 1973, atop a sagebrush at Prophecy in Stone southeast of the Dinosaur Quarry Visitor Center by J. Graham 10 July 1979, and on the Red Rock Nature Trail (possibly in the desert region of Uintah County) by B. Ingber 12 August 1981 (D. Chure, in litt.).

In this study avian populations were very small (unpubl. data) at site 12 (Fig. 1), but in June 1979 several immature and adult Black-throated Sparrows constituted the most common species there. Apparently they nested there or nearby. None were observed along another transect at site 14 (Fig. 1) existing along a wash with vegetation dominated by greasewood. It was seen once in greasewood habitat in Sand Wash (site 10, Fig. 1), however. Although it was observed during the summers of 1978–1980 in the present study, it was not seen in summer 1981. Uintah County is near the northern boundary of its range, and in 1981 apparently not many birds migrated as far north as White River in Uintah County. Perhaps Lloyd and Twomey (Twomey 1942) did not observe it in 1937 because its range did not extend as far north then as it generally has in recent years.

**Sage Sparrow** (*Amphispiza belli*). Reported to be uncommon (Behle and Perry 1975a,b, Behle 1981), "rather uncommon" (Hayward 1967), or sparse (Hayward et al. 1976) in Utah. In western Colorado, it is reported to be a common resident of sagebrush habitat (Bailey and Niedrach 1965), and I found it to be the same in the desert scrub habitat of Uintah County (Fig. 2). It is at least as common there now (Fig. 2) as in 1937 (Twomey 1942) and is more prevalent there than in Utah generally (Hayward 1967, Behle and Perry 1975a, Hayward et al. 1976, Behle 1981).

During their nesting period, Sage Sparrows at Kennedy Basin (40°05'N, 109°17'W) 18 km northwest of Bonanza, preferred to inhabit what Green (1981) considered to be mixed shrub-sand dune communities. He noted that sagebrush-greasewood and saltbush-bud sagebrush communities adjacent to a mixed shrub-sand dune community were seldom used by the birds. Green (1981) indicated that it selected habitat containing large, sparsely distributed shrubs where there was little forb and litter cover. All ground nests were in depressions beneath clumps of rabbitbrush and elevated nests were in shrubs at a mean height of 26 cm (Green 1981). Over 1979 and 1980, 95% of the young fledged (Green 1981). Miller (1968) stated that during late summer, Sage Sparrows congregate while experiencing their postnuptial molt and that flocks wander in fall. Green (1981) remarked that small groups of juveniles from supposed first clutches flocked in July and joined adults and presumed juveniles from second clutches in late August. However, these behaviors do not constitute major flocking among the species. That occurs in October when large congregations are formed, particularly along washes where greasewood predominates. Large migratory flocks also occur in the deserts of Uintah County in March. Of the migrant sparrows that nest in the desert region of Uintah County, the Sage Sparrow is the first to arrive and the last to leave (Fig. 2).

**Lark Bunting** (*Calamospiza melanocorys*). More than 26 sightings were made in Uintah County during 15–31 May and throughout June in 1950, 1952, 1953, 1966, 1979, and 1982 (Killpack 1951, Porter and Egoscue 1954, Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Anonymous 1977, Kingery 1979b, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Fig. 2).

At Kennedy Basin (40°05'N, 109°17'W), 18 km northwest of Bonanza, Lark Buntings arrived on 16 May and departed on 6 August in 1979 and arrived 14 May and departed 10 August in 1980 (Johnson 1981). The birds existed at a density of about 0.6/ha at a male to female ratio of approximately 3:1. Excess males served as nest helpers in feeding nestlings (Johnson 1981). In 1979 all nests were confined to one area, but in 1980 nests were clumped in groups of four or five. In 1980, all nests were destroyed by trucks involved in

oil and natural gas operations (Johnson 1981). At Kennedy Basin the species utilized open, low desert shrub habitat (average height 6–30 cm) 86% of the time (Johnson 1981). Males frequented greasewood habitat 10 times more often than females (Johnson 1981).

**Savannah Sparrow** (*Passerculus sandwichensis*). Much less common (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942). I observed it along Green River adjacent to desert scrub habitat approximately 250 m downstream from the Green River bridge at Dinosaur National Monument, near White River about 1.3 km southwest of MFB, at SLWMA, site 1, and along the northwest shore of Pelican Lake near a diked marsh (Figs. 1–2). Utah Field Ornithologists observed one bird at ONWR and Pelican Lake 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**Song Sparrow** (*Melospiza melodia*). Twomey (1942) stated that during 7 May–30 June 1937, it bred in dense willows along Green River and its tributaries in the vicinity of Jensen. Since 1937 there has been no specific sighting record of it between April and September in the desert region of Uintah County (Fig. 2) except 15 May 1982 at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument (possibly in the desert region of Uintah County; Leppert 1982). Behle (1981) noted that the Song Sparrow often wintered in desert scrub habitat. I performed extensive transect surveys (unpubl. data) in that habitat in all seasons and saw it there only once. In the desert region of Uintah County, it prefers thickets along marshes (particularly at SLWMA) but also occurs near streams and lakes.

**Lincoln's Sparrow** (*Melospiza lincolnii*). One was observed in front of the headquarters of Dinosaur National Monument 5 May 1956 by J. M. Good, who had heard several birds some weeks before that date in Bug Draw above the headquarters (Beidleman, in litt.). The species was sighted at the confluence of White and Green rivers 22 March 1967 (Behle 1981). Specimens were collected at ONWR 2 April 1963 and at White River 8 km east of Bonanza 26 May 1974 (Behle 1981). In 1937, birds were observed at what is now SLWMA during 1–15 May and 1–30 September, particularly 20 September (Twomey 1942). It is less common now (Fig. 2). I observed it 600 m southwest of MFB,



twice 400–500 m south of MFB, at SLWMA, along the north shore of Pelican Lake, and three times at ONWR (Figs. 1–2).

**White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*). An immature was banded at ONWR by C. Clemens and M. Lange in November 1982 (M. Lange, pers. comm.).

**White-crowned Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*). I saw it 14 September–21 May (Fig. 2). Hayward et al. (1976) noted that *Z. l. oriantha* is the breeding subspecies in Utah and that *Z. l. gambelii* is more common than *Z. l. oriantha* in winter. However, in the desert region of Uintah County, *Z. l. oriantha* was always more common.

**Harris' Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*). Killpack (1958) saw 15 on 31 December 1957, but they probably were members of a flock in Duchesne County that was seen 28 December 1957 (Killpack and Hayward 1958). D. Thompson (D. Chure, in litt.) observed one at Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area 8 May 1965. I observed one among a small flock of Dark-eyed Juncos in cottonwoods near White River about 1.7 km southwest of MFB (site 9) and one twice at site 1 (Fig. 2).

**Dark-eyed Junco** (*Junco hyemalis*). Although it is common in the desert region of Uintah County (Fig. 2), it is evidently not as abundant as it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942). It was observed at Dinosaur National Monument as late as 1 June in spring and as early as 22 September in fall (Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). On an Audubon Christmas bird count in the Jensen area, 58 *J. h. hyemalis* and 48 *J. h. montanus* were reported 26 December 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.). Twomey (1942) indicated that in 1937 the subspecies *J. h. caniceps* was abundant in lowland riparian areas throughout May and during 25–30 September. Four members of that subspecies were seen on Green River south of Jensen 5 August 1937 (Twomey 1942). In this study *J. h. caniceps* was not seen in the desert region of Uintah County. It was the only subspecies that I observed on the Roan Plateau of western Colorado (el. 2440–3050 m) during summer (Cook 1981).

**McCown's Longspur** (*Calcarius mccownii*). One was reported at Green River Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, by N. Stephan 7 June 1973 (D. Chure, in litt.).

## Icteridae

**Red-winged Blackbird** (*Agelaius phoeniceus*). In Uintah County it is much less prevalent in winter than during other seasons.

**Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*). One was reportedly heard by H. G. Troester (pers. comm.) at ONWR in 1981.

**Western Meadowlark** (*Sturnella neglecta*). Twomey (1942) noted that it began to migrate south from the Uinta Basin by 30 September 1937. It occurs throughout the year in Uintah County (Fig. 2) and congregates where livestock are fed in winter. It is at least as abundant now (Fig. 2) as it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*). Two were seen in the Jensen area unusually late (Fig. 2) 26 December in 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.).

**Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*). Although common, it is apparently less abundant (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942). Its occurrence in Uintah County during winter is limited to localized flocks at farm yards such as the one along Utah Highway 149 (Road B) about 1 km north of its junction with U.S. Highway 40 (Fig. 1).

**Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*). One was sighted at PWA 12 May 1982 by D. Zalunardo and S. Madsen (pers. comm.).

**Common Grackle** (*Quiscalus quiscula*). In May it has been seen on the grounds of the Utah Field House of Natural History (Behle 1981, Kingery 1981c, Fig. 2) and at SLWMA (Leppert 1982).

**Brown-headed Cowbirds** (*Molothrus ater*). Apparently more common now (Fig. 2) than in 1937 (Twomey 1942).

**Northern Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*). Although common, it is less abundant (Fig. 2) than in 1937 when Twomey saw large migratory flocks (Twomey 1942). Twomey (1942) commented that in 1937 Northern Orioles were tame. Now they are very wary. I did not see the species after 25 August (Fig. 2), but in 1937 it emigrated from the Uinta Basin from the first week of August to mid-September (Twomey 1942).

**Scott's Oriole** (*Icterus parisorum*). Reported on or near the federal oil shale tracts U-a and U-b in sagebrush-greasewood, riparian, and juniper habitats in June and August 1975 and 1976 (Anonymous 1977). M. Pasho (D. Chure, in litt.) sighted it at Split Mountain Boat Ramp, Dinosaur National Monument, in June 1981. A. R. Johnson and B. H. Green (White et al. 1983) saw four to five 12–16 km west of the Colorado border 11–14 August 1979.

### *Fringillidae*

**Rosy Finch** (*Leucosticte arctica*). J. M. Good (Beidleman, in litt.) saw a large flock of the gray-crowned subspecies (*L. a. tephrocotis*) at Split Mountain Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, 1 November 1956. In greasewood, shadscale, juniper, and riparian habitats on or near the federal oil shale tracts U-a and U-b during 1975 and 1976, this subspecies was observed in December and February (Anonymous 1977). Hayward (1967) collected two representatives of the black subspecies (*L. a. atrata*) near Randlett 6 May 1950 and two from a large flock north of Vernal 13 May 1961. T. Tornow (pers. comm.) sighted that subspecies in Johnson Bottom of ONWR in January and February 1979 but did not see it at ONWR during 1980–1982. In greasewood, shadscale, juniper, and riparian habitats on or near the federal oil shale tracts U-a and U-b during 1975 and 1976, *L. a. atrata* were observed from December to April (Anonymous 1977).

**Cassin's Finch** (*Carpodacus cassinii*). Twomey (1942) observed seven in cottonwood snags immediately south of the Ashley Creek marshes at what is now SLWMA. I observed one with a small flock of House Finches at site 4 (Figs. 1–2). Utah Field Ornithologists saw one at Split Mountain Campground, Dinosaur National Monument, and one in a Vernal park 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

**House Finch** (*Carpodacus mexicanus*). Twomey (1942) stated that in 1937 it was very abundant and was probably the widest ranging bird in the Uinta Basin because it existed from river floodplains and desert badlands to timberline of the Uinta Mountains. Hayward (1967) noted that it is one of the most common birds in the upper Colorado

River basin. More than 27 sightings of it were made in the desert region of Uintah County 18 March–October and 29 December 1949, 1950, 1956–1958, 1961, 1966, 1973–1976, and 1982 (Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Killpack 1959, Anonymous 1977, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). It was less prevalent during this study (Fig. 2) than it was in earlier decades (Twomey 1942, Behle 1981, Beidleman, in litt.). I observed it 26 January (Fig. 2), although relatively few birds winter in the northern portion of the upper Colorado River basin (Hayward 1967).

**Common Redpoll** (*Carduelis flammea*). At site 4, I saw a male with several Tree Sparrows eating the seeds of *Kochia* sp. 29 December 1978 (Figs. 1–2).

**Pine Siskin** (*Carduelis pinus*). Less common (Fig. 2) than it was in 1937 (Twomey 1942). I observed it only 1 October–1 January (Fig. 2); the following observations were made at other times. Twomey (1942) heard or saw many migrating birds during the first two weeks of May and 21–30 September 1937. At Dinosaur National Monument, it has been seen 1–14 August (Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). It was collected at ONWR 9 April 1963 and 20 March 1966 (Behle 1981). Twenty were seen outside the Utah Field House of Natural History 15 May 1982 (Leppert 1982, D. Chure, pers. comm.).

**Lesser Goldfinch** (*Carduelis psaltria*). In Vernal Twomey (1942) observed a male in a private flower garden 22 July 1937 and a male and two females 10 and 12 August 1937. In Dinosaur National Monument, Argante saw it at Green River Campground 1 June 1973, J. Starbler sighted it at Cub Creek 1 and 23 June 1973, N. Howk and B. Ingber saw three in greasewood brush near Josie Morris Cabin 18 July 1980 and 10 pairs at Cub Creek 14 August 1981, and J. Freilich observed it at Box Canyon near Josie Morris Cabin 21 August 1979 (D. Chure, in litt.).

**American Goldfinch** (*Carduelis tristis*). More than 26 sightings were made in the desert region of Uintah County 18 March–28 August 1945, 1949, 1957, 1963, 1966, 1967, 1973–1976, and 1980–1982 (Behle and Ghiselin 1958, Anonymous 1977, Behle 1981, Leppert 1982, Beidleman, in litt., D. Chure, in litt.). Twomey (1942) believed that by 30 September 1937, almost all of the American Goldfinches that summered in the Uinta Ba-

sin had emigrated south. Contrary to what Twomey (1942) and Behle and Perry (1975a) reported for the Uinta Basin and Utah, respectively, the American Goldfinch is as common in winter as during other seasons in the desert region of Uintah County (Fig. 2). I observed it on eight different days in January. From 11 to 191 individuals were seen in late December 1952–1958 in an area including western Uintah County (Crittenden et al. 1953, 1955, Killpack 1957, 1958, 1959, Killpack et al. 1954, 1956), and on an Audubon Christmas count in the Jensen area 73 birds were observed 26 December 1982 (D. Chure and L. Ferris, pers. comm.).

**Evening Grosbeak** (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*). Seen in an area including a western portion of Uintah County 31 December 1953 (3, Killpack et al. 1954) and 29 December 1955 (2, Killpack et al. 1956). In Dinosaur National Monument, R. W. Horton saw 10 at Green River Campground 27 January 1964 and at Dinosaur Quarry Residential Area, W. G. Truesdell observed 80 on 17 February and 17 March 1974, 20 on 3 March 1974, and an unspecified number later in 1974 until 1 May (D. Chure, in litt.). M. L. Perry (pers. comm.) observed the species on the grounds of the Utah Field House of Natural History in Vernal during at least one winter in the 1970s. Utah Field Ornithologists saw one at Josie Morris Cabin, Dinosaur National Monument, and 10 at Vernal parks 15–16 May 1982 (Leppert 1982).

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